

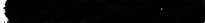





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VOLUME I.

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THE GOVERNORS' LETTER-BOOKS

1818-1834



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COLLECTIONS  
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*VOLUME IV*

EXECUTIVE SERIES, VOL. I  
THE GOVERNORS' LETTER-BOOKS  
1818-1834

EDITED WITH INTRODUCTION AND NOTES

BY

EVARTS BOUTELL GREENE  
CLARENCE WALWORTH ALVORD

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS



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## PREFACE

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The Illinois State Historical Library presents in this volume the first of a new series which will be devoted to the manuscript material illustrating the office of the chief executive of the state. The letter-books here printed are in the office of the secretary of state at Springfield. The rule in printing has been to reproduce faithfully the copies as they were written, as far as the printed page can do so. There has been no attempt, therefore, to correct the spelling or punctuation of the original. In cases of doubt, however, the correct form has been chosen. One important change has been made. The letters were copied in the letter-book as opportunity and fancy dictated, so that order was entirely lacking and in many cases letters were copied twice. We have rearranged the material in chronological order, except in the case of enclosures, and have omitted the second copies, all the more important changes of this character being noticed in the foot notes; and we believe that this will make the volume more useful to students.

In closing we wish to make our acknowledgments to Secretary James A. Rose for the courtesies he has extended to us and our assistants, and to Mrs. Jessie Palmer Weber for furnishing the copies of the portraits that illustrate the volume. We feel particularly indebted to Miss Mary G. Doherty, graduate student in

the University of Illinois, for the patience and care she has shown in writing the footnotes, collating the text, and preparing the index, under our direction.

EVARTS BOUTELL GREENE  
CLARENCE WALWORTH ALVORD

CHAMPAIGN-URBANA

April, 1909

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## INTRODUCTION.

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To the patriotic citizen of Illinois, this collection of official letters written by our first four governors, needs no explanation. It is hoped that the material here presented may also prove useful and interesting to many students of history and politics in other states. Though few scholars today will approve the famous dictum of Edward Freeman, that "history is past politics," it is nevertheless certain that the changing structure and functions of the state will always be an important subject of historical inquiry. From this point of view, few topics are more important than the processes by which the frontier commonwealths of our "middle west" have been adjusted first to the primitive needs of the pioneers, and then by gradual changes to the complex economic and social order of the present day.

The sixteen years of Illinois history covered by these letters constitute in many respects a distinct chapter in the experience of the state. When Governor Bond assumed his office in 1818, Illinois was in nearly all important particulars a frontier community. A population of some forty thousand people, about as many as may be found today in any one of twenty counties of the state, was sparsely distributed, chiefly over the southern third of the state. To the north and northwest in Northern Illinois and in Iowa was the

almost unbroken wilderness. Even in the southern third, bear and deer were numerous, and the outlying settlements had still to be on their guard against the Indians. During the fifteen years preceding the passage of the Enabling Act, substantial progress had been made in the extinction of the Indian title, but the work was by no means complete. Most of the land already acquired from the Indians was still a part of the national domain, administered on principles not wholly satisfactory to the actual settlers on the frontier.

The people of this new commonwealth were mainly of the same type as those to be found in the border states of Kentucky and Tennessee, from which many of them had come. Their economic activities were of the simplest sort and nearly all were engaged in farming of a primitive kind. There were salt works along the Ohio, but no manufactures of any importance. Trade was exceedingly limited, and for the most part families supplied their own needs, not only in food, but in clothing and furniture as well. There was not a single town in the state of more than a few hundred inhabitants; and, as in other frontier communities, money was exceedingly scarce. A population of this sort needed and could afford only the simplest political machinery. The entire expenditure of the state government for the biennial period of 1821 and 1822 was less than fifty thousand dollars.<sup>1</sup>

By 1834, when John Reynolds resigned the governorship to enter Congress, many of these characteristic frontier conditions had passed away. The population had increased to about a quarter of a million, and sixty

1. Governor Coles to the Governor of Maryland, *post*, p. 45.



of the 102 counties of the state had been organized, extending northward and eastward to LaSalle and Cook, both of which were organized in 1831.<sup>1</sup> The Black Hawk War and the negotiations which followed it had eliminated the Indian problem and left a clear field for the white settler. Steam navigation on the Ohio and Mississippi, which was just beginning in 1818, had developed to large proportions by 1834; the Erie Canal had been built; and Chicago had begun its career as a lake port. With these changes, and largely in consequence of them, there had come new elements in the population which were gradually transforming Illinois from a border state to a distinctly northern commonwealth. New Englanders and New Yorkers were coming, in considerable numbers, to the northern counties, and a substantial German colony had been planted in St. Clair and the neighboring river counties. Ambitious schemes of internal improvement were in the air, and the biennial disbursements had increased from forty-seven thousand dollars in 1821 and 1822 to one hundred and sixty-three thousand in 1833 and 1834.<sup>2</sup>

To understand the position of Governor Bond, in comparison with his present-day successor, we have not only to remember the small population of the state, and the relative simplicity of its material interests; we must keep in mind also his constitutional limitations. The Constitution of 1818 was formed at a time when one-man power was more strongly distrusted than now, and the legislature received a larger measure of confidence. The Governor was given no independent veto

1. State census in *House Journal*, 1836, p. 372; Rose, J. A., "Counties of Illinois, Their Origin and Evolution," in *Blue Book*, 1905, p. 374.

2. *Blue Book*, 1907, p. 593.

power; he was merely one member of a Council of Revision, whose veto could be over-ridden by a bare majority. Furthermore, a section of the "Schedule" made it possible to reduce his appointing power within narrow limits, by authorizing the legislature to make appointments in a large number of cases.<sup>1</sup> On the other hand, it is to be noted that the governor and the lieutenant-governor were the only executive officers elected by the people of the state at large, and that on the whole they compare favorably with their successors as genuine leaders and representatives of their fellow-citizens.

Three of these first governors were natives of slave-holding states, and the fourth had spent a considerable part of his early life in Tennessee. Shadrach Bond, the first of the group, was a Marylander by birth and represents the second generation of Anglo-Americans in the Illinois country, to which he came as a young man in 1794. He soon became a prominent figure in the politics of the district, held several offices under the succeeding territorial governments, and was for a time the Illinois territorial delegate to Congress. One of his successors, Governor Ford, who was present at the first session of the legislature under the state government, has characterized Bond as "a substantial, farmer-like man, of strong, plain, common sense, with but little pretensions to learning or general information. He was a well-made, well-set, sturdy gentleman."<sup>2</sup> Though not a great figure, he was, all in all, a good representative of the English speaking pioneers who transformed the French Illinois of the eighteenth century into a thor-

1. Constitution of 1818 in *Illinois Revised Statutes*, Art. III. and Schedule, 10.

2. Ford, *History of Illinois*, 27-28.

oughly American commonwealth. The number of letters from this administration is, however, comparatively small and of much less varied interest than those which follow.

The second governor, Edward Coles, was the most notable personality in the whole group, the least provincial in his experience and interests. A Virginian of Jefferson's own county of Albemarle, he had studied at William and Mary College, and then continued his education as President Madison's private secretary. A still broader horizon opened up for him when in 1816 he was sent by Madison on a special mission to St. Petersburg. A slaveholder, by inheritance, he was driven by the "peltings and upbraidings" of his conscience to emancipate his slaves and remove with them to the free state of Illinois.<sup>1</sup>

For most students of state history, Coles' term as governor is marked chiefly by the decisive victory of the anti-slavery forces, under his leadership, over those who sought to amend the constitution in the interest of slavery. Of all this intensely exciting conflict, however, there is curiously enough only the slightest trace in the official letter-book. Fortunately this deficiency is supplied in the valuable series of letters printed by E. B. Washburne in his *Governor Coles and the Slavery Struggle in Illinois*.<sup>2</sup> The letters here printed bring out clearly the wide range of Coles's interests and his statesmanlike appreciation of the permanent and highest concerns of the State. He saw the weakness of the state banking system, and was active in his efforts to correct its abuses. He was one of the most earnest

1. E. B. Washburne, *Governor Coles and the Slavery Struggle in Illinois*, esp. chaps IV., V.

2. *Ibid*, chaps. VI. ff.

advocates of internal improvements, including the Illinois and Michigan Canal. He was, finally, one of the few politicians of his time to appreciate the importance of conserving the state's endowment for educational purposes. Notwithstanding these eminent services, Coles failed to secure popular recognition in his own time, was subjected to petty persecution, and finally gave up his residence in the state.

The third in the succession of governors was Ninian Edwards (1826-1830) who had already served for nine years as governor of the Illinois Territory. He was born in the border state of Maryland, but moved to Kentucky just as he was coming of age. There he had a strikingly successful career in law and politics, and finally became chief justice of the Supreme Court. As territorial governor from 1809 to 1818, he had the responsibility of administering public affairs through a long period of Indian troubles and border warfare, and he was appropriately rewarded by his election as one of the first two senators for the new state. Thus, like Coles, Edwards had had the advantage of contact with the larger affairs of the nation. Among Edwards' confidential correspondents were such men as Henry Clay, John C. Calhoun, William Wirt, and Rufus King. After Edwards had served five years in the senate, Calhoun wrote him, in a letter discussing the impending presidential campaign: "I hope you will not think of retiring. Your efforts in the present crisis is [*sic*] of the greatest importance. Few men can have greater influence on the destiny of the country than yourself at this time. Your capacity, firmness and intelligence are all-important."<sup>1</sup>

1. Washburne, *Edwards' Papers*, esp. pp. 210, 211, 250.

In 1824, Edward was appointed minister to Mexico, but resigned in consequence of a violent controversy with W. H. Crawford then secretary of the treasury in Monroe's administration. He impressed his contemporaries in the state as a somewhat imposing personage with a certain fondness for dignity in external matters; but he seems to have lacked that strain of idealism which was so characteristic of Coles. It is worth noting that he took no conspicuous part in the slavery contest of 1822-1824. Ford mentions him as one of the "convention party," but he was also claimed by the anti-slavery party; one of his letters records the sale of "servants" held by him. It is only fair to say, however, that he was elected governor after a radical, and as one of his contemporaries declared, imprudent campaign against financial interests which he held to be corrupt. His attack on the state bank management was, on the whole, the most conspicuous feature of his administration, and the subject occupies a large place in his correspondence.<sup>1</sup>

Governor John Reynolds (1830-1834) was distinctly a politician of the lower grade who played the game with the tricks which seemed at the time most effective. He was of Irish descent; his childhood was spent in Tennessee; and, after the family had moved to Illinois, he was sent back to college in Tennessee. Naturally, enough, he identified himself with the party of southern and pro-slavery tendencies. In the governorship contest of 1829 and 1830, Reynolds appeared even to his friends as unduly afraid of committing himself; but his cautious procedure enabled him to win votes from

1. Washburne, *Edwards' Papers*, especially Chaps. XIV., XIV., (see also p. 220); N. W. Edwards, *History of Illinois and Life of Ninian Edwards*.

both the Jackson and anti-Jackson camps. In the Black Hawk War, which was the leading event of his governorship, he played a somewhat melodramatic role. He left the governorship in 1834 to enter Congress and was an active, though a distinctly second-rate, figure in democratic politics until the outbreak of the Civil War. In the factional contests of the later fifties, he sided with the Buchanan administration against the Douglas element in the party. He will perhaps be longest remembered by his literary products, his *Pioneer History of Illinois* and *History of My Own Times*, which though crude and inaccurate, are still useful to students of state history.<sup>1</sup>

The sources of Reynolds's popularity may, perhaps, be best indicated in the following characterization of him by his contemporary, Governor Ford:

"Judge Reynolds was made of more good-natured, easy and pliable materials. He had received a classical education, and was a man of good talents in his own peculiar way; but no one would suppose from hearing his conversation and public addresses that he had ever learned more than to read and write and cypher to the rule of three. \* \* \* He had been a farmer, a lawyer, and a soldier, a judge, and a member of the legislature. He had passed his life on the frontiers among a frontier people; he had learned all the by-words, catch-words, old sayings and figures of speech invented by vulgar ingenuity, and common among a backwoods people; to these he had added a copious supply of his own, and had diligently com-

<sup>1</sup> Ford, *History of Illinois*, pp. 54, 105, 106; E. B. Washburne, *The Edwards Papers*, especially pp. 216, 284, 285; Reynolds, *My Own Times* (ed. 1855), pp. 1-128; Snyder, *Adam W. Snyder and his Period in Illinois History* (Virginia, Ill., 1906), p. 300.

pounded them all into a language peculiar to himself, which he used on all occasions, both public and private. He was a man of remarkably good sense and shrewdness for the sphere in which he chose to move, and possessed a fertile imagination, a ready eloquence, and a continual mirthfulness and pleasantry when mingling with the people. He had a kind heart, and was always ready to do a favor and never harbored resentment against any human being."<sup>1</sup>

What, now, were the special problems which confronted these frontier governors? The student will probably prefer to answer that question by turning to the letters themselves. Nevertheless it may be worth while to indicate briefly the main topics covered, especially since the letter-book gives only a partial view of some important transactions.

During all this period the public land question in its various aspects formed a prominent part of the governor's correspondence. One of the chief objects of Governor Bond's solicitude was the right of the state in the saline lands. The enabling act of 1818 provided that all salt springs in the state and "the land reserved for the use of the same" should be granted to the state for use in accordance with regulations established by the legislature.

Under the territorial administration these salines were leased to private individuals, and the same policy was continued by the state. These leases constituted a considerable portion of the state revenue and a useful form of security for state loans. It was, therefore, important that the governors should see to it that the

1. See also an interesting characterization of Reynolds in Dr. J. F. Snyder's *Adam W. Snyder and his Period in Illinois History*, (Virginia, Ill., 1906) p. 327.

leases were so drawn as to protect the interests of the state, that proper security should be required of lessees, and punctual payment of rents exacted. The relative importance of the salines diminished in the later years of this period; but the letters of Bond and Coles show that they took seriously their responsibility in this matter.<sup>1</sup>

Besides the salines, whose revenues were available for general purposes, the state had also certain land rights for educational purposes. In the first place, the sixteenth section in each township was granted to the state in trust for the inhabitants of the township, for educational purposes. Secondly, the state was assigned three per cent of the net proceeds of public land sales within its limits for the encouragement of learning. Finally, the enabling act added to the single township previously granted for a seminary of learning a second township for the same purpose.<sup>2</sup>

The Bond administration seems not to have concerned itself deeply with these matters; but Governor Coles at once took steps to secure the interests of the state. Almost immediately after his inauguration, he began his correspondence with a view to locating the seminary lands. His letter of August 21, 1823 is especially notable as illustrating his keen interest in "making judicious selections" and "making the most of this great fund which is to enlighten our posterity to the latest generation."<sup>3</sup> At the close of Coles's administration, a considerable part of the seminary grant

1. Text of Enabling Act in *Revised Statutes of Illinois*, 1903, p. 27; Smith, in *Transactions of Illinois State Historical Society*, 1904, pp. 245-258; below, chapters I., II., esp. pp. 3, 7, 13, 46, 66, 68.

2. Enabling Act in *Revised Statutes*, 1903, pp. 25-27.

3. Below, pp. 47-50.



still remained to be located, and the correspondence was continued by his successors, Edwards and Reynolds. As the lands were located, pains were taken to protect them from depredations.<sup>1</sup>

Coles showed a similar interest in securing the proper use of the "sixteenth section" lands for educational purposes and in claiming from the federal government the proper percentage of the income from public land sales. On August 25, 1825, he wrote to the governor of Ohio for advice as to the best method of conserving the school land endowment, and in his opening paragraph pointed out some of the difficulties he had to contend with:

"Among our politicians there are many schemes talked of for rendering the sixteenth section and the seminary lands speedily productive, some of which I deem not only wild and fallacious, but highly in violation of the true intent of the grants and highly detrimental to the permanent interests of the community."

It may be noted in this connection that the first comprehensive school law of Illinois, that of 1825, belongs to this administration. A brief account of the status of these school funds is given in Coles's letter to the chairman of a special committee of the United States Senate, November 1, 1825.<sup>2</sup> Coles was, however, in advance of public sentiment on this subject also and important provisions of the act of 1825 were soon repealed.

Another subject which appears frequently in the correspondence is that of internal improvements. At the beginning of the Coles administration, the legisla-

1. e. g. pp. 64, 95, 96, below.

2. Below pp. 67, 76, 92-94.

ture of Illinois passed an act appointing one or more commissioners to act with a similar commission from Indiana in examining the obstructions to navigation on the Wabash River.<sup>1</sup> Each state finally appointed a commissioner in 1823 and estimates of the cost of the proposed improvement were laid before the Illinois legislature. The majority of the members, however, preferred the employment of incorporated companies to the governor's plan of state action. An act was accordingly passed incorporating the "Wabash Navigation Company." In reporting this measure to the Governor of Indiana, Coles expressed his belief that the time is "not far distant when the waters of the Wabash and Erie will mingle and waft on their bosoms, vessels laden with the products of their valleys, and with the richest treasures of all quarters of the globe."<sup>2</sup>

The business dragged for several years, but in December, 1832, Governor Reynolds notified the governor of Indiana that Illinois had made an appropriation for this improvement and asked for co-operation. Differences arising in the Indiana legislature prevented action on the proposal at first; but in 1834 Indiana responded with a similar appropriation, and arrangements were made for the carrying out of the work under the supervision of a joint commission.<sup>3</sup>

Much more important in its ultimate consequences was the agitation for the Illinois-Michigan Canal. This was another of Coles's favorite measures, though it had also been advocated by Bond,<sup>4</sup> and the first steps in that direction had been taken by the legisla-

1. Below pp. 32, 36.

2. Below, pp. 75, 84-86.

3. Below, pp. 224-226.

4. Ford, *History of Illinois*, 28.

ture before Coles came into office. In this case, as in that of the Wabash improvement, he strongly favored direct construction by the state, rather than the incorporation of companies for this purpose. In accordance with his wishes, surveys were made and estimates of cost proposed; but the plan of state action was temporarily set aside, and in 1825 the Illinois and Michigan Canal Company was incorporated.<sup>1</sup>

In the next year, however, the charter of this company was repealed, and Coles at once began inquiries as to the possibility of securing federal aid and loans from eastern capitalists. James Mason, of Edwardsville, was sent as a special agent to the East and instructed to interview various capitalists who might be induced to invest under suitable conditions. It was thought that the owners of land in the "Military Tract," north and west of the Illinois River, would have a special interest in such a plan. Mason reported after "frequent conversation with different brokers, and other moneyed men in the city," that a loan of \$700,000 could readily be secured at six per cent. In view of Coles's leadership in the anti-slavery fight, it is of interest to note Mr. Mason's opinion that the outcome of that contest had had a favorable effect upon the credit of the state. "Some are of opinion, inasmuch as we had decided twice in favor of a free state, that we could obtain the loan whether we obtained the grant of land or not, and added that they would sooner take the State of Illinois for security for \$700,000 [than] the State of Kentucky." On the other hand, the owners of the military bounty lands seem to have been

1. Below, pp. 84-86.

chiefly impressed by the heavy taxes which the Illinois legislature had imposed upon them.<sup>1</sup>

Governor Edwards was also strongly interested in the canal proposal. Before his election, in the summer of 1825, he wrote to Henry Clay, then secretary of state, under Adams, urging that the latter should "introduce into his message to Congress some sentiment favorable to the connection of our great lakes with the Atlantic and western waters." "A favorite object," he said, "and indeed a political hobby that supersedes all others in this State and Missouri, is a canal to connect Lake Michigan and the Illinois River."<sup>2</sup> In 1827, Congress made a grant of land in support of the canal, and Edwards proceeded to arrange for a new survey by federal engineer officers, the surveyors who had previously acted for the state having been men without adequate "practical experience." In 1829, the legislature made provisions for beginning the canal.<sup>3</sup>

No substantial progress, however, was made with the plan for several years. The state was now involved in serious financial difficulties which required the negotiation of a large loan for debt payment and current expenses; and in 1831 and 1832 public attention was much occupied by the Black Hawk War. In 1831, a commission appointed by Governor Reynolds made a discouraging report on the whole canal project, as the result of statements made by the state engineer appointed for this purpose. Serious difficulties of construction were pointed out, and the commissioners made a provisional report in favor of substituting a

1. Below, pp. 99-107.

2. Washburne, *Edwards Papers*, 240-241.

3. Below, pp. 136-138, 142; *U. S. Statutes at Large* (Ed. 1846), III., 234.

railroad from Lake Michigan to the Illinois.<sup>1</sup> The actual construction of the canal was not begun until 1836, just beyond the limits of this volume.

The student of banking and finance will find also some material of value, especially on the operation of state banking. The Constitution of 1818 provided that there should "be no other banks or moneyed institutions in this state than those already provided by law, except a state bank and its branches which may be established and regulated by the general assembly of the state, as they may think proper."<sup>2</sup> The general depression of the years 1819 and 1820 created a demand for money; and in 1821 the legislature chartered a new state bank at Vandalia, with branches at Edwardsville, Brownsville, Shawneetown and Palmyra. It was a bank without capital and without adequate regulations for the security of its loans and note issues. The provision that the president and directors should be biennially elected by the legislature opened the way for vicious political influences, and the management was thoroughly unbusinesslike.

The notes of the bank soon depreciated to a mere fraction of their face value, and in 1824 Governor Coles urged a thorough investigation and reorganization. As a result of this agitation, an amendatory act was passed requiring the cashiers of the branch banks to furnish security approved by the governor. A delinquent cashier might be removed by the governor, who was also empowered to fill the vacancy, subject to the approval of the senate. Governor Coles at once set about the enforcement of these provisions. Cashiers

1. Below, pp. 191-197.

2. *Constitution of 1818*, Art. VIII., Sec. 21.

were warned against delay in making returns and informed that "however unpleasant it may be," the governor was determined "rigidly to carry the law into effect."<sup>1</sup>

Governor Edwards came into office with a campaign record of hostility to the state banking interests, and began his administration with a series of charges against prominent bank officials. The letter-book contains a number of peremptory notes to bank cashiers calling for reports and complaining of deficiencies in previous returns.<sup>2</sup> His letter of January 19, 1827, to the cashier of the State Bank, begins in this belligerent fashion: "Having learnt that you have publicly boasted of having evaded my calls on you for information &c and not knowing how to account for your delay in furnishing that which was asked by my letter of the 5th inst., I can only say that if I cannot get it before Monday next, I must do without it and refer the subject to the legislature."

He was especially interested in learning the names of members and officers of the general assembly who were "defaulting debtors," to the State Bank or its branches.<sup>3</sup> As a result of these investigations, the legislature directed the transfer of the bank funds to the state treasurer, and in September 1829, Governor Edwards issued a vigorous proclamation asserting his intention to enforce rigidly the collection of claims in the state. In 1831 an act was passed winding up the affairs of the bank and the ill-judged experiment came

1. Below, pp. 76-82; see also *Laws of Illinois*, 1825, pp. 82 ff; C. H. Garnett, *State Banks of Issue in Illinois*, (University of Illinois, 1898).

2. Below, pp. 116 ff. Washburne, *Edwards Papers*, pp. 255, 264-266, 270.

3. Below, pp. 121, 122.

to an end, leaving burdensome obligations to be assumed by the state.<sup>1</sup>

To many readers the most interesting part of this correspondence will probably be that relating to Indian affairs. In 1823 Governor Coles in urging a more liberal assignment of arms from the War Department to Illinois called attention to the dangers on the north-eastern frontier "at this time menaced by powerful tribes of savages."<sup>2</sup>

During Edwards' administration, for the first time since the admission of the state, the Indian problem takes a prominent place in the letter-book, beginning with the Winnebago troubles in the border region between the settlements of Illinois and Wisconsin. Governor Edwards's letters show an increasing impatience with the continuance of Indian occupation in the state and a frequent insistence on the removal of the tribes. The federal administration was, on the whole, in sympathy with this object, though it urged on the state authorities the desirability of moderation. Thus, on July 7, 1828, Peter B. Porter, secretary of war in the Adams administration, writes of the agreements negotiated with the Indians of Illinois, and adds a plea for forbearance: "It is characteristic of these people to be slow, and their claims upon our forbearance and liberality will not, I am sure, be least upon your Excellency, who knows so well the nature of those relations which exist between us and these unfortunate people."<sup>3</sup>

1. Below, pp. 148, 149; Garnett, *State Banks of Issue*, pp. 17-21.

2. Below, p. 55.

3. Below, pp. 128-130, 132, 139; Cf. Washburne, *Edwards Papers*, Chap. XVII.

The correspondence of the Indian agent, Thomas Forsyth, with William Clark, the superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, makes it clear that the movement of settlers into the "Military Tract," north and west of the Illinois, was making trouble with the Sacs and Foxes, notably with Black Hawk and his band.<sup>1</sup> Forsyth writes to Clark that he had done all he could to secure the removal of the Indians in accordance with the treaties of 1804 and 1816; "but the Black Hawk, with a few others, are the Indians who are making all this fuss."

In 1831 and 1832 these smoldering feuds broke out into the so-called "Black Hawk War," which during these years forms the staple of Governor Reynolds's correspondence. In a letter to Superintendent Clark at St. Louis, Reynolds announces his calling out of the militia to protect the citizens in the neighborhood of Rock Island from "invasion." A sufficient force would shortly appear before the Indians "to remove them *dead* or *alive* to the west side of the Mississippi." With the co-operation of General Gaines and his regular troops, the Indians were persuaded to remove across the Mississippi. Nevertheless, Reynolds wrote to the secretary of war in July 1831 that there were still some "bad Indians" on Rock River who should be moved. He adds: "This may save a great deal of trouble, as I assure you that if I am again compelled to call on the Militia of this State, I will place in the field such force as will exterminate all Indians, who will not let us alone."<sup>2</sup>

1. Below, pp. 144-148.

2. Below. pp. 165-170, 172-175, Cf. on this subject, Stevens, *Black Hawk War*.



The return of Black Hawk in 1832 brought a renewal of the war; but the crushing defeat of the Indians was followed by treaties which resulted in the final removal of the Sacs and Foxes. Reynolds now pressed strongly for the removal of other tribes which had taken part in recent disturbances, notably the Kickapoos and the Pottawattomies.<sup>1</sup> In October, 1832, he received from Superintendent Clark a report showing substantial progress in the extinction of the Indian titles and the actual removal of certain tribes from the state. In December, however, Reynolds reported that the Indians were still "troublesome on our frontiers," noting especially outrages in LaSalle and Putnam counties on the Illinois River. These, however, were only the last echoes of the old conflict. Before Reynolds went out of office in 1834, the Indian troubles had practically ceased to exist in Illinois.<sup>2</sup>

During this period of Indian disturbances, the correspondence of the governors shows a marked degree of state feeling, a sensitiveness as to the rights of the state with reference to such matters, which recalls, though in a far less serious form, the contemporary controversy between the United States and the State of Georgia. Of some interest in this connection is Reynolds's letter of November 10, 1831, in answer to an inquiry from certain road commissioners as to the necessity of securing permission from the federal authorities in order to establish a road from Vincennes to Chicago through the Indian territory. Reynolds insisted on immediate execution of the law "without making

1. Below, pp. 176, 184, 202-220 *passim*.

2. Below, pp. 216, 220, 221. Cf. on this subject C. C. Royce, *Cessions of Land by Indian Tribes to U. S.*, in *Publications of Bureau of Ethnology* I., p. 255.

application to any person." "The jurisdiction and sovereignty of the state must of necessity be co-extensive with the limits of the state, and no Indian claim to territory, or other claim, can be interposed, to prevent the state from the constitutional exercise of its sovereignty."<sup>1</sup>

Some minor points of interest may be noted more briefly. Two letters of Governor Coles in 1825 contain his protest against the action of the Michigan territorial government in attempting to exercise jurisdiction over the lead mining district. In 1831, Governor Reynolds secured the appointment of a federal commissioner for the purpose of marking the boundary line as Coles had proposed six years earlier. This did not, however, close the controversy, which was continued until Wisconsin was organized as a state. The right of Illinois to the northern counties was disputed on the ground that the ordinance of 1787 had fixed the boundary at a line drawn through the southerly bend of Lake Michigan.<sup>2</sup>

Some light is also thrown on social conditions, as in Coles's letter of September 4, 1823, in answer to an inquiry from New York about poor relief. He regrets his inability to furnish much practical information, but notes as his chief difficulty "the fact that Illinois has no poor; at least so few that I have not been able to learn anything about them, or to collect any facts relative to the operation of our poor laws, although I have made application to several of the oldest and most populous counties in the state."<sup>3</sup> A similarly primi-

1. Below, p. 191.

2. Below, pp. 82-84, 180, 187. Cf. Thwaites, *Boundaries of Wisconsin*, in Wisconsin State Historical Society, *Collections*, XI., 451-501, esp. 494 ff.

3. See below, pp. 50-52.

tive condition of affairs is disclosed in a letter to Governor Reynolds asking him to grant a pardon to a certain "C. Bonae, the only convict in the penitentiary, which if you grant will save the state a considerable expense."<sup>1</sup>

Of interest also is a brief report to the secretary of the treasury, on experiments in silk culture (Coles to Rush, November 15, 1826).<sup>2</sup>

Perhaps the most interesting touch of sentiment is offered by Governor Coles's letter enclosing the address of a legislative committee, inviting Lafayette to visit the state. Coles refers to his own personal acquaintance with Lafayette in Paris, and urges the peculiar attractions of a visit to the "Western States" where the visitor might see "the rapid improvements made by the children of the Revolutionary contest." "We should not be able to receive you in large and splendid cities, nor accommodate you in spacious mansions; but we flatter ourselves with the belief that you would be gratified in seeing our beautiful country and would enjoy a parental interest in the promising prospects of our infant state." As is well known, the visit actually took place, and became one of the most cherished traditions of southern Illinois.<sup>3</sup>

1. Below, pp. 231.

2. Below, 113-114.

3. Below, p. 70.







Shadrach Bond

REGISTER  
OF  
OFFICIAL LETTERS  
*VOLUME II*





## CHAPTER I

### EXECUTIVE LETTER-BOOK OF SHADRACH BOND, 1818-1822

| Copy of letter to Benjn. Stephenson written by him and others praying for the appointment of P. Mason, Esqr., to the office of Notary Public for Madison County, dated October 17, 1818.

KASKASKIA, Oct. 23d, 1818

B. STEPHENSON, Esqr

*Sir*—As the Governor was starting from this place to the county of Monroe he recd a recommendation signed by yourself and others recommending P Mason Esqr for the appointment of Notary public. He left the same with me directing me to give the following answer. The Governor of the State has no authority to make the appointment. The constitution requires all officers whose appointments are not otherwise provided for by that instrument to be nominated by the Governor and the nomination to be confirmed by the Senate, before a commission can issue except in cases of vacancy &c. You will have the goodness to communicate the substance of the present to the gentlemen who joined you in the recommendation.

I am Sir Yr Mo Ob Servt

ELIAS K. KANE,<sup>1</sup> Secy of State

Copy of letter to J. D. Wilcox.

KASKASKIA, Nov. 7th, 1818

J. D. WILCOX, Esqr

*Sir*—I am requested by Gov. Bond to write you and request that you will make a State seal. Let it be larger than the

1. Elias Kent Kane: born, 1794 [?] in New York; 1812, graduated from Yale College; 1814, moved to Kaskaskia, Illinois, where he began the practice of law, and where he soon married Felicite Peltier; February 17, 1818, was appointed judge of the eastern circuit by Governor Edwards; 1818–December 16, 1822, secretary of State; 1822–24, managed pro-convention paper, "The Republican Advocate," at Kaskaskia; 1824–25, represented Randolph County in General Assembly; March 3, 1825–December 11, 1835, United States senator; December 11, 1835, died at Washington, D. C.; in politics was a pro-slavery Democrat.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887; Snyder, John F., *Adam W. Snyder*, Virginia, 1906; James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois* Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications. III.

Territorial Seal. The governor makes no doubt that you will be amply compensated by the Genl Assembly. Have it ready by the next meeting of the Genl Assembly if possible.

I am Sir Yr Mo Ob Servt

E. K. KANE

Copy of a letter to the Secy. of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania in answer to his communication of 29th Oct., 1818.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

KASKASKIA, Dec. 1st, 1818

I am instructed by the Governor to acknowledge the receipt of three copies of the laws passed by the legislature of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania at their last session transmitted in obedience to the act of the General Assembly &c.

I have the honor to be Sir Yr Mo Ob Servt

ELIAS KENT KANE, Secy of State

The Secretary of the commonwealth of Pennsylvania

Copy of a letter to the Sheriff of Gallatin County inclosing a writ of election to supply the vacancy occasioned by the Resignation of John Marshall<sup>1</sup>.

KASKASKIA

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, Dec. 22d, 1818

Sir—Inclosed I send you a writ of election issued by the Governor. You will discover therefrom that the election is to be held on the second Monday in January next. The constitution will not authorize the polls to be open longer than one day.

I have the Honor to be Sir Yr Mo Ob Servt

ELIAS KENT KANE, Secy of State

The Sheriff of Gallatin County

1. John Marshall: June 7, 1814, appointed justice of the peace of Gallatin county by Governor Ninian Edwards; August 5, 1815, appointed judge of the county court for Gallatin County; January 10, 1816, appointed judge of the county of Gallatin for three years; April 3, 1816, appointed justice of the peace for Gallatin County in the General Assembly.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records for Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications. II.

Copy of Circular addressed to each member of General Assembly.

KASKASKIA, SECRETARY'S OFFICE

Dec. 22d, 1818

Sir—I am instructed by his Excellency the Governor to inform you that he has this day by proclamation appointed the third Monday in January next for a meeting of the General Assembly of this State and that you are requested to give your attendance accordingly at the seat of Government.

I have the Honor to be Sir Yr Mo Ob Servt

ELIAS KENT KANE, Secretary of State

The Honorable A. B. Representative or Senator from the county of D.

KASKASKIA, Jan'y 5, 1819

*Gentlemen*—The act of Congress enabling the people of Illinois to form a State Government among other provisions has provided that all Salt Springs, &c. within the State shall be granted to the State for the use of the same.

The Saline<sup>1</sup> near Shawnee Town had been previously leased under the authority of the Genl Government, which lease will not

1. The Ohio or Wabash Salines in Gallatin County were worked in two principal localities: at Nigger Spring, four miles from Equality, and more profitably at Half Moon Lick, a mile from Equality. These salines were first worked by the Indians, later by the French and the English. When the territory came into the possession of the United States, Congress ordered the surveyors to "observe closely for salt springs, and salt licks and mill seats." Yet no definite action concerning the salines was taken till 1803, when Congress authorized the secretary of the treasury to lease the salt springs for the benefit of the government. A year later it was enacted that all salt springs and licks with necessary land adjacent should be reserved from sale as the property of the United States, and the territorial government authorized to lease. In pursuance of these laws, the Ohio Saline was leased for the first time to a Captain Bell, of Lexington, Kentucky, in 1803. The next Congressional action in regard to the Ohio Saline was the creation of the Shawneetown district in 1812, and the reservation of 96,766.79 acres from sale. Six years later the enabling act of Illinois granted to the state the use of all salt springs, provided it should never sell the land or lease it for longer than ten years at any one time. Almost from the beginning of governmental control, the Ohio Salines had supplied a large district of the country with salt. The brine then used required from one hundred and twenty-five to two hundred and eighty gallons to make one bushel (fifty pounds) of salt. From one to two thousands hands were employed and the yield was between eighty and a hundred bushels a day. Wood was the fuel used, and as the timber was cut down, the furnace was moved to the forest and the brine conveyed in wooden pipes. When salt works were established on the Kanawha River, in Virginia and at Pomeroy, in Ohio, the Ohio Salines declined in importance, and attempts to work them proved ruinous.—Smith, Geo. W., *Transactions of Ill. State Hist. Soc.*, 1904; Worthen, *Geol. Surv. Ill.*, Vol. 6.

be determined untill the month of June, 1820. The object of the present is to enquire from you and through you from the President what measures, if any, have been or will be taken to put this State into the possession of the rents arising from that contract of lease which have accrued since the adoption of the Constitution of the State, and which will continue to accrue untill the termination of the lease. It is desirable that I should be furnished with information upon the subject at an early period as the General Assembly will meet on the third Monday of the present month, that I may lay the same before that body.

I have the Honor to Sirs Yr Most Obt Servant

Signed SHADRACH BOND<sup>1</sup>

The Honorable N. EDWARDS<sup>2</sup>

J. B. THOMAS<sup>3</sup> and JNO. McLAEN<sup>4</sup> [sic]

1. Shadrach Bond: born 1773 in Frederick County, Maryland; 1794, moved to Kaskaskia, Illinois; February 1, 1808, appointed by President Jefferson member of Legislative Council of Indiana Territory; May 3, 1809, appointed by Secretary Pope, lieutenant-colonel commandant of militia in St. Clair County; December 9, 1809, appointed justice of the peace of St. Clair County by Governor Edwards; March 7, 1812, appointed aid-de-camp to commander-in-chief; April 4, 1812, appointed judge of the Court of Common Pleas for St. Clair County; December 3, 1812–October 3, 1814, territorial delegate to Congress from Illinois; October 3, 1814, appointed receiver of public moneys at Kaskaskia by President Madison; October 6, 1818–December 5, 1823, appointed register of land-office for district of Kaskaskia by President Monroe; 1824, unsuccessful congressional candidate; 1832, died at Kaskaskia and was buried there; 1881, remains removed to Chester, Illinois.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications; Reynolds, John, *Pioneer III: History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

2. Ninian Edwards: born, March 1775, in Maryland; 1794, went to Kentucky to invest in land; 1796–98, represented Nelson County in Kentucky Legislature; 1798, licensed to practice law; 1802, appointed major in the Kentucky Militia; 1803, Circuit Court judge; 1804, elected presidential elector; 1804, fourth judge of the Court of Appeals; also congressional candidate, but declined before election; 1808, Chief Justice of Kentucky; April 24, 1809, appointed governor of Illinois Territory by President Madison; June 11, 1809, appeared at Kaskaskia and produced his commission as governor; 1818, removed from Kaskaskia to Edwardsville; December 4, 1818–March 9, 1824, United States senator; 1824, appointed minister to Mexico, by President Monroe, but immediately resigned to answer attacks on his integrity; 1824, removed to Belleville; December 6, 1826–December 6, 1830, governor of Illinois; 1832, unsuccessful candidate for Congress; July 30, 1833, died at Belleville; in politics was a Republican.—Edwards, N. W., *Life of Ninian Edwards*, Springfield, 1870; James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications, III.

3. Jesse Burgess Thomas: born, 1777, in Hagerstown, Maryland; 1779, moved to West Bracken County, Kentucky, where he studied law, practiced and married; 1803, moved to Laurenceburgh, Indiana Territory; July 29, 1805–October 24, 1808, represented Dearborn County in Indiana Territorial Legislature, in which he served as Speaker; August 24, 1805, appointed by Governor Harrison a captain in Dearborn County Militia; 1806, married Rebekah, the widow of Major John Francis Hamtramck; December 1, 1808–March 3 1809, congressional delegate to complete short term caused by resignation of Benjamin

Copy of a letter to the Hon. Jno. Reynolds<sup>s</sup> inclosing a commission for remitting a fine imposed on R. Reynolds, Jr.

KASKASKIA, January 7th, 1819

*Dr Sir*—Herewith you will receive a commission remitting the fine imposed upon R. Reynolds, Jr.

I have the honor to be sir yr obdt Servt.

ELIAS K. KANE, Secy of State

The Honble JOHN REYNOLDS, Cahokia

Parker; 1808, moved to Vincennes; March 7, 1809, appointed by President Madison federal judge for Illinois Territory; 1809, moved to Prairie du Rocher and later to Cahokia; July 1818, delegate from St. Clair County to Constitutional Convention, over which he presided; December 4, 1818–March 3, 1829, United States senator; 1819, moved to Edwardsville; 1829, moved to Mount Vernon, Ohio; 1840, delegate to Whig National Convention at Columbus, Ohio; August 6, 1843–December 4, 1848, justice of the Ohio Supreme Court; May 4, 1853, died at Mount Vernon, where he was buried.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887; Snyder, J. F., *Adam W. Snyder*, Virginia, 1906.

4. John McLean: born, February 4, 1791, in North Carolina; 1795, brought to Kentucky; 1814, admitted to the bar; 1815, removed to Shawneetown, Illinois; August 27, 1817, appointed captain of the company of artillery in the Second Brigade; January 13, 1818, appointed judge of the eastward circuit but refused to serve; December 1818–March 3, 1819, Congressional representative; 1819, unsuccessful candidate for Congress; 1820–22, representative of Gallatin County and speaker of the House of Representatives in the state legislature; 1822, unsuccessful candidate for Congress; December 20, 1824–March 3, 1825, United States senator to finish term caused by the resignation of Ninian Edwards; 1826–30, representative of Gallatin County and speaker of the House of Representatives in the State Legislature; December 1, 1829–October 14, 1830, United States senator; October 14, 1830, died at Shawneetown and was buried there; in politics was a Democrat.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*; James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications, III; Burham, J. H., in *Transactions of Illinois Historical Society*, 1903.

5. John Reynolds: born February 26, 1788, in Montgomery County, Pennsylvania; 1800, emigrated to Kaskaskia, Illinois; 1807, removed to Goshen; 1814, established law office at Cahokia; August 22, 1815, appointed judge advocate of the Second Regiment; 1817, married Mrs. Catherine Manegle (nee Dubuque); October 8, 1818–August 31, 1822, justice of Supreme Court of Illinois; August 31, 1822–January 19, 1825, chief justice of Supreme Court of Illinois; 1823, unsuccessful candidate for United States Senate; 1824, unsuccessful candidate for state representative; 1826–30, represented St. Clair County in the General Assembly; December 6, 1830–November 17, 1834, governor of Illinois; 1834–37, Congressional Representative; May 1836, married Sarah Wilson at Georgetown, D. C.; 1839–43, congressional representative; 1846–48, state representative from St. Clair County; 1848, unsuccessful candidate for state senator; 1852–54, served as representative from St. Clair County and speaker of the House of Representatives in the General Assembly; 1852, published "Pioneer History of Illinois"; 1853, published "Adventures of John Kelly"; 1854, began publication of "The Eagle," a weekly Democratic newspaper; 1854, published his "Sketches"; 1855, "My Own Times"; 1856, "The School Advocate"; 1858, "Friendship's Offering"; 1858–9, published "The Star of Egypt," a weekly newspaper; 1858, unsuccessful Danite candidate for state superintendent of public instruction; 1860, delegate to National Democratic Convention at Charleston; 1860, published "The Balm of Gilead"; May 8, 1865, died at Belleville, where he was buried in Walnut Hill Cemetery. Robert Reynolds was a brother of John Reynolds.—Reynolds, John, *My Own Times*, *Pioneer History of Illinois*; Snyder, J. F., *Adam W. Snyder*, Virginia, Illinois, 1906; James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications, III.

KASKASKIA, Jany 26th, 1819

*Sir*—In obedience to a resolution of the general assembly of this State, I have the honor to transmit to the commissioner of the General Land office the inclosed memorial and resolutions.

I have the honor to be Sir Your most obedient Servant

SHADRACH BOND

The honorable JOSIAH MEIGS, Commissioner of the Genl Land office.

KASKASKIA, Jany 26th, 1819

*Gentlemen*—In obedience to a resolution of the Genl Assembly of this State, I have the honor to transmit to you the enclosed memorial and resolution.

I have the honor to be Gentlemen Yr. Mo. Obt. Servt.

SHADRACH BOND

The honorable N. EDWARDS and J. B. THOMAS

KASKASKIA, ILLINOIS, Jan. 26th.

*Sir*—In obedience to a resolution of the Genl Assembly of this State I have the Honor to transmit to you the enclosed memorial & resolutions.

I have the Honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

SHADRACH BOND

The Honble JOHN McLEAN

Copy of a letter addressed to N. Edwards, Jesse B. Thomas and John McLaen.

KASKASKIA, February 2nd, 1819

*Gentlemen*—In compliance with the request contained in the enclosed resolution, I herewith transmit the same to you together with the memorial of the Genl Assembly of this State.

I have the Honor to be Sirs Yr Mo Obt Servt

SHADRACH BOND

The honble N. EDWARDS, J. B. THOMAS and Jno. McLEAN

KASKASKIA, February 23rd, 1819

THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS OF THE BANK OF ILLINOIS<sup>1</sup>

*Gentlemen*—I herewith enclose an extract from the law of the general assembly of this State authorizing the Governor to contract for a loan of twenty-five thousand dollars upon the credit of the State, and by which you will discover that the proceeds of the Ohio Saline are particularly pledged for the payment of the loan. The Saline has been leased for two years at the rate of nine thousand six hundred dollars per annum to be paid half yearly commencing from the fourth day of December last past. This Specified in each lease that the rent is payable at the bank of Illinois. The rent which has accrued by virtue of the contract of lease heretofore made with the United States between the 26th of August and the 4th of December last, will also be applied to the reimbursement of the money loaned. The rent due between those dates is estimated at one thousand dollars rating the Salt to be paid at ninety cents a bushel. The object of the present letter is to enquire whether the whole or any part of the loan can be procured from the bank of Illinois. If so the amount and the terms. Should the bank of Illinois afford the accommodation, measures will be taken to obtain the notes of the present lessees with indorsing that the Directory shall approve negotiable and payable at the bank. As early an

1. The first state bank of Illinois was founded by the General Assembly in 1821 and consisted of a principal bank at Vandalia, and branch banks at Shawneetown, Edwardsville, and Brownsville. The bank was not funded at all, but was established solely on the credit of the state. It was entirely subservient to the Legislature, as the directors and officers were appointed by the General Assembly. The bank was authorized to issue one, two, three, five, ten and twenty dollar notes, bearing two per cent interest and payable in ten years, to any person who gave personal security for a sum up to one hundred dollars and a mortgage on land for a larger amount. These notes were then made legal tender in the payment of all private debts, state and county taxes, costs, fees, and salaries of public officers. The new banks went into operation; and notes to the amount of three hundred thousand dollars were at once issued, as everyone borrowed on little or no security. The bank notes immediately decreased in value, falling twenty-five per cent, and gradually to seventy-five per cent below par. When Ninian Edwards became governor he began an investigation of the bank, in which he declared he saw corruption. A committee appointed by the House to investigate reported that there had been careless mismanagement, but nothing could be proved against the officers which would justify the belief that they had acted corruptly or in bad faith. The affairs of the bank went from bad to worse until at the end of its ten year lease of life, the Legislature passed an act authorizing the state to borrow one hundred thousand dollars to redeem the depreciated currency.—Ford, Thomas, *History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1864.

answer as can with convenience be made to this communication is desirable.

I have the Honor to be Yr Most Obt Servant

SHADRACH BOND

Copy of a letter to John Hays<sup>1</sup> directed to John Hay, Esquire<sup>2</sup>, sheriff of St. Clair county or to any of his Deputies.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

KASKASKIA, Feby. 25th, 1819

*Dr Sirs*—I send you inclosed by express a certified copy of the act entitled "An Act authorizing a special term of the circuit court in St. Clair county for the trial of certain prisoners."

You will have the goodness to return by express a certificate that you have received the act.

You will discover from the act you are the sheriff referred to.

I have the Honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

ELIAS K. KANE, Secretary of State

JOHN HAYS, Esq. &c.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

KASKASKIA, Feb. 27th, 1819

JOSEPH M. STREET, Esq.<sup>3</sup>

*Sir*—You will herewith receive a commission by which you are appointed Recorder for Gallatin County. The law passed at

1. John Hays: born in New York; 1793, came to Cahokia, Illinois; 1798–1819, sheriff of St. Clair County and postmaster at Cahokia.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

2. John Hay: born May 8, 1769, in Detroit, Michigan; between 1790 and 1800 came to Cahokia; 1799, appointed by Governor St. Clair clerk of the court of common pleas, of the orphans court and of the court of quarter sessions, and also treasurer of St. Clair County; 1797, married Margaret Poupert; 1805, represented St. Clair County in Indiana Territorial Council; May 3, 1809, appointed justice of the peace of St. Clair County; June 17, 1809, appointed clerk of the court of common pleas of St. Clair County; June 20, 1809, appointed clerk of county court of St. Clair County; July 25, 1809, appointed recorder of St. Clair County; January 23, 1811, appointed clerk of the court of common pleas; December 13, 1814, appointed clerk for supreme court for St. Clair County; December 24, 1814, appointed clerk of St. Clair county court; after 1814 moved to Belleville; January 11, 1816, appointed clerk of St. Clair County court for three years, but January 10, 1817, resigned; January 13, 1818, appointed clerk of the circuit court for St. Clair county; May 27, 1818, resigned office of justice of peace; May 27, 1818, appointed clerk of St. Clair County court; January 12, 1825, elected probate judge of St. Clair County; 1843, died at Belleville.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*. Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

3. Joseph M. Street: came to Illinois from Kentucky and settled at Shawneetown; September 19, 1812, appointed clerk of the court of common pleas of Gallatin County, by



the present session of the General Assembly requires that previous to entering upon the duties of your office that you should execute a bond to the Governor and his successors in office with one or more sufficient securities in the sum of fifteen hundred dollars "conditioned for the true and faithful execution of your office and for delivering up the records and other writings belonging to the said office whole safe and undefaced to your successor in office which Bond duly executed must be returned to this office," &c.

I have the honor to be &c.

E. K. KANE, Secy of State

Copy of letter to Josias Randle Recorder of Madison and Jno Hay, Esq., Mutatis mutandis.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE  
KASKASKIA, March 6, 1819

JOSIAS RANDLE,<sup>4</sup> Esq.

Sir—Inclosed you will receive commission by which you are appointed Recorder for Madison County. The law on that Subject passed at the present session of the General Assembly, requires that previous to entering on the duties his office The Recorder should give Bond with one or more sufficient Surities to the Governor and his successors in office in the Sum of fifteen hundred Dollars conditioned for the true and faithful execution of his office and for delivering up the records and other writings

Governor Edwards; September 27, 1812, appointed justice of the peace and recorder of Gallatin County; December 13, 1814, appointed clerk of the supreme court for Gallatin County; December 24, 1814, appointed clerk of the county court for Gallatin County; January 10, 1816, appointed clerk of the county court for Gallatin County for three years; February 27, 1816, appointed justice of the peace for Gallatin County; January 13, 1818, appointed clerk of county and circuit courts of Gallatin County; February 27, 1819, commissioned recorder of Gallatin County by Governor Bond; 1827, brigadier-general of the Militia; February 15, 1828, appointed Indian agent at Prairie du Chien by President Adams.—James E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*.

4. Josias Randle: born October 1, 1766, in Brunswick County, Virginia; 1700, went to Georgia as itinerant minister of Methodist Episcopal Church; 1795, married Ann Thorn; 1811, moved to Illinois, where he settled a mile and a half south of the present city of Edwardsville; September 19, 1812, appointed by Governor Edwards, clerk of the Court of Common Pleas of Madison County; September 27, 1812, appointed recorder for Madison County; December 13, 1814, appointed clerk of the Supreme Court of Madison County; December 24, 1814, appointed clerk of County Court of Madison County; January 11, 1816, reappointed clerk of the County Court of Madison County for three years; January 13, 1818, appointed clerk of County Court of Madison County; March 6, 1819, commissioned recorder for Madison County; January 15, 1824, died.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*; *Madison County History*, Edwardsville, 1882.

belonging to his office whole safe and undefaced to his successors in office which Bond must be returned to this office.

I have the honor to be Sir Yr mo obt servt

ELIAS K. KANE, Secty of State

Copy of Letter to Wm. H. Beaird, Esq.<sup>1</sup>

SECRETARYS OFFICE

KASKASKIA, March 6th, 1819

Sir—Inclosed you will receive a commission appointing you Sheriff for St. Clair County.

The law passed at the present session of the Genl Assembly defining the duties of Sheriff &c. requires the Sheriffs to give bond with securities to be approved of by the Clerk of the Circuit Court and afterwards to be approved by the Circuit Court of the County to the Governor and his successors in office in the penal Sum of two thousand dolls. conditioned for the faithful performance of the duties of their offices.

The same act provides that the Sheriffs must take an oath to Support the Constitution of the United States and this State and the oath of office &c. which must be endorsed upon the Commission and the date and material facts thereof and recorded in the Clerks office.

I am very respectfully Yr Mo Obt Servt

ELIAS K. KANE Secy of State

March 9th, 1819

Copy of a power of Attorney from the Governor to Pierre Menard.<sup>2</sup>

Know all men by these presents That I Shadrach Bond Governor of the State of Illinois by virtue of the powers in me vested by an act of the General Assembly of said State approved on the nineteenth day of February in the year of our Lord

1. William H. Beaird: appointed by Governor Edwards deputy sheriff of St. Clair County, 1815-1818; elected for same biennially from 1818-1830; died in Belleville, 1843.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

2. Pierre Menard: born October 6, 1766, at Saint Antoine, Province of Quebec, Lower Canada; 1788, or before, came to Vincennes, Indiana; 1789, accompanied François Vigo to Carlisle, Pennsylvania, to interview George Washington concerning the Western

one thousand eight hundred and nineteen entitled "an act authorizing a loan of twenty five thousand Dollars have and by these presents do appoint and employ Pierre Menard Esq Lieutenant Governor of said State as Agent for me and in my name and for and on behalf of said State to negotiate with and borrow upon the credit of the state from the Bank of Missouri, in St Louis or from the Bank at Edwardsville or from any individual or individuals the whole or any part of the sum of twenty five thousand Dollars authorized by the act as aforesaid. And the said Pierre Menard is further hereby authorized to pledge the Credit and faith of the State and particularly the nett proceeds of the Ohio Saline for the payment of the principle and interest of the money Borrowed payable within two years from the time the loan shall be made and the said Pierre Menard Esq is hereby authorized to contract for the same loan upon the terms specified in the letter of instructions hereunto annexed.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto set my hand and private seal this ninth day of March in the year of our Lord one thousand Eight hundred and nineteen.

frontier; 1791, removed to Kaskaskia, Illinois; June 13, 1792, married Therese Godin at Kaskaskia; October 7, 1795, commissioned by Governor Arthur St. Clair, major of First Regiment of Militia of Randolph County; August 1, 1800, commissioned to same office by John Gibson, acting governor of Indiana Territory; February 5, 1801, appointed by Governor W. H. Harrison, one of judges of Court of Common Pleas of Randolph County; September 24, 1802, appointed with John Edgar and John Griffin on a commission of enquiry concerning crimes in the Territory; 1803, delegate to Territorial Legislature of Indiana Territory; December 14, 1805, appointed by the commissioners of the land office for the district of Vincennes, a commissioner to take depositions and examine witnesses within the County of Randolph; December 27, 1805, appointed judge of Court of Common Pleas for Randolph County; July 12, 1806, appointed lieutenant-colonel commandant of First Regiment of Militia of Randolph County; September 22, 1806, married Angelique Saucier at Kaskaskia; April 1, 1809, appointed by governor of Louisiana Territory, captain of infantry in a detachment on special service; May 6, 1809, appointed by Secretary Nathaniel Pope, lieutenant-colonel of First Regiment of Randolph County Militia; 1809-18, representative from Randolph County in and presiding officer of Legislative Council; January 23, 1811, appointed judge of Court of Common Pleas of Randolph County, but resigned February 11, 1811; April 2, 1813, appointed by Secretary of War, John Armstrong, United States sub-agent of Indian affairs; 1818-22, lieutenant-governor; May 24, 1828, appointed by President John Q. Adams, together with Lewis Cass, on a commission to make treaties with Indians of the Northwest; June 13, 1844, died at Kaskaskia where he was buried.—Mason, Edw. G., *Pierre Menard, Pierre Menard Papers*; Baker, Henry S., *Pierre Menard*, Chicago, and Historical Collections, IV; James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*.

Copy of a letter of Instruction from the Governor to Pierre Menard.

PIERRE MENARD Esq

The money you are authorised to borrow upon the Credit of this State by virtue of the foregoing power of Attorney must be understood to consist of either gold or silver coin or such Bank notes as are receivable at the land offices in this State. You are at Liberty on the part of the State to contract for the payment of Interest at the rate of        per centum per annum upon the money loaned. You can state that the Ohio Saline has been rented for nine thousand six hundred dollars per annum payable half yearly commencing from the fourth Day of December last into the Bank of Illinois at Shawneetown, and you may contract that the Bank or individual loaning shall receive those proceeds in proportion to the amount loaned as fast as they become due and are paid.

I have to be Sir Yrs &c

KASKASKIA, April 3rd, 1819

THE HONBLE P. W. JOHNSON

*Sir*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of yours of the 24th ulto. A regular term of the circuit court will be held in the county of Crawford on the fourth Monday of this Month. I will lay your communication before the justice of the Supreme court assigned to the Second judicial circuit meets [*sic*] my full approbation for which you will accept my thanks.

Yr Mo Obt Servt

SHADRACH BOND

KASKASKIA, April 3rd, 1819

TO THE HON WM H CRAWFORD

*Sir*—It is ascertained that there are valuable Salt Springs<sup>1</sup> upon sections twenty two and twenty three in township two

1. The Vermillion Saline: Springs feebly impregnated with salt were early found at several points on or near the Vermillion. "The well was begun in 1819 by a small company, of which Messrs. Blackman, Treat and Beckwith are remembered as the principal members, and deepened at intervals. A brine yielding one bushel of salt to one hundred and seventy gallons of water was boiled at such a rate to yield from forty to fifty

North of Range 7 East of the third principal meridian in this State and [since the titles] of all Salt Springs together with Lands reserved for the use of the Same within this State have been granted to the State, I have the honor to request that the usual quantity of Land may be reserved for the use of the Springs upon the aforementioned sections and as contiguous to thereto as may be.

I have the honor &c

SHADRACH BOND

P. S. At the request of Judge Towle I send the enclosed certificate.

Copy of a Letter to Col. W. Hargrave.<sup>2</sup>

KASKASKIA, April 19th, 1819

Sir—As I consider it essential to the Interests of the State that Some Person should be appointed to visit occasionally the Ohio Saline to examine and report to me the condition of the several establishments thereat, I have thought proper to confide to you this agency and you will consider this as your Letter of Appointment.

It will be required of you to visit monthly the several establishments and particularly examine the concerns thereof, and

bushels per week with eighty kettles. Later a cavity of eighteen inches was found, from which flowed a much stronger brine, one hundred gallons of which gave a bushel of salt. The production was now about one hundred and twenty bushels per week, and the price, \$1.50 per bushel. In 1825, Major Vance bought the works and deepened the well, the boring being continued at intervals until 1827, but the strength of the brine did not notably increase. After the construction of canals and railroads, they were unable to compete with the Syracuse salt; and work was stopped and never resumed. The brine probably came from the sand-stone at the base of the coal measures."—*Worthen, Geol. Surv. Ill.* Vol. 4, p. 263.

2. Willis Hargrave: pioneer from Kentucky who came to Illinois and settled near Carmi, in White County; July 30, 1810, appointed by Governor Edwards captain in Third regiment of militia; November 29, 1811, appointed major in Fourth Regiment of militia; March 12, 1814, appointed colonel in Fourth Regiment of militia; January 10, 1816, appointed colonel in Fifth Regiment of militia in White County; January 10, 1816, appointed judge of the county court of White County for three years; August 17, 1817, resigned as lieutenant colonel of Illinois militia; 1817–18, represented White County in second session of Third Territorial Legislature; February 28, 1818, appointed justice of the peace for White County; 1818, represented White County in Constitutional Convention; 1818–20, State senator; April 19, 1819, appointed inspector of Ohio Saline; December 6, 1823, chairman of meeting of "Friends of Convention" at Vandalia; 1827, resigned Major-generalship; December 16, 1830, elected superintendent of Gallatin County Saline.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications, III; Washburne, E. B., *Sketch of Edward Coles*, Chicago, 1882.

enquire into any alleged violation of the contracts of Lease and report the same to me without delay. If more frequent visitations and examinations should be considered necessary it is expected that you will perform the same.

I wish you to call upon Genl White and get from him the several Leases confided to his care and if he has not already procured the additional securities you will please to do so and forward the same to me. Inclosed I send you the papers referred to me by the House of Representatives on the subject of a violation on the part of Mr. Owens. You will examine into the truth of these charges. For the services which will be required of you in this agency you will be allowed the sum of four hundred Dollars.

Your appointment and duties terminate at the expiration of the Present Leases. The above sum will be paid in quarterly instalments out of the Public Treasury.

I am Dr Sir with much respect Yr Mo Obt Servt

(Signed) SHADRACH BOND

P. S. The Leases may be sent by Judge Foster.<sup>1</sup>

KASKASKIA, April 24th, 1819

Sir—Inclosed I send you a commission by which you are appointed Adjutant General of this state, also I send a printed copy of that part of the Militia Law relating to my duty. The construction I have given it after much deliberation is this That notice should be given to the commandants of Regiments as paid out by the late Territorial Laws to cause elections to be held in the several companies composing their regiments for the election of one colonel, two majors, and for each company, one captain, one Lieutenant, and one Ensign; where there are battalions not attached to any regiment, if any such there are, notice is to be given to the commander thereof for the election of the same officers. As you have been Adjutant General heretofore you no doubt have a list of the old officers, and you will give these notices as Adjutant General by the command of the Com-

1. William P. Foster: elected October 8, 1818, justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, but resigned June 22, 1819. See *post* p. 17.

mander in chief. Should it so happen that there are no Colonels in some regiments which have been heretofore established or no majors in battalions which are not attached to any regiment, you will immediately advise me that I may appoint some person for that purpose. As twenty five days notice is to be given, no time is to be lost. Should you not feel a willingness to accept this appointment, I hope you will have the goodness at any rate until the militia are organized and until I can advise with you about the appointment of another.

I have the honor &c

COL ALEXANDER<sup>1</sup>

SHADRACH BOND

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

KASKASKIA, May 1st, 1819

Sir—I am directed by the Governor to inform you that by a law of the last session of the General Assembly you are required to produce to the Governor certificates from the proper officers that you were not at the time of your election in arrear to the treasury of your county nor to the State treasury and also that you are not in arrear for any monies which by law you are required to pay over to those treasuries at the time that your certificate is produced.

If you fail to produce those certificates on or before the 15th day of the present month, the Law requires that a writ of election should be issued for the election of another Sheriff.

I am Dr Sir Yr &c

IRVIN MORRIS Esq<sup>2</sup>

E. K. KANE, Secy of State

1. William Alexander: appointed May 6, 1809, justice of the peace in Randolph County, by Governor Edwards; January 2, 1810, appointed captain of militia of Randolph County; October 27, 1814–December 1818, adjutant-general; January 10, 1815, appointed county treasurer of Randolph County; January 10, 1816, appointed recorder and clerk of County Court of Monroe County, but refused to serve; 1818–20, represented Monroe County in General Assembly; April 24, 1819–June 11, 1821, adjutant-general of the state; 1822–24, represented Monroe County in the General Assembly; January 12, 1825, elected Probate Judge of Monroe County.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. *Publications*, III; Moses, John, *Illinois, Historical and Statistical*, Chicago, 1892.

2. Irvin Morris: appointed August 6, 1816, justice of the peace of Johnson County, by Governor Edwards; January 14, 1817, appointed coroner for Johnson County; July 21, 1817, appointed sheriff of Johnson County; 1819, sheriff for Johnson County.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. *Publications*, III.

Copy of the above was addressed to A. Armstrong<sup>1</sup>, Sheriff of Edwards County.

KASKASKIA, May 1st, 1819

COL WILLIS HARGRAVE

*Sir*—I have to request that you (if Genl White has not already done the same) will proceed to take notes from the lessees of the Ohio Saline negotiable and payable at the bank of Illinois for the rent contracted by them respectively to be paid.

You have no doubt before this procured from Genl White the leases except the lease of Major Taylor which is in the Secretary's office, his lease stipulated for the payment of \$1600 commencing at the same time and payable in the same manner as the others. You will of course take care to require good indorsers.

I am Dr Sir &c

SHADRACH BOND

P. S. Let the notes be so taken that the money when paid may be drawn by me or my successors in office.

Copy of a Letter to Col. W. Hargrave.

KASKASKIA, May 18th, 1819

*Dear Sir*—On the 31st March ulto. I sold to Josephe Kitchell of Crawford County, the salt due from the lessees of the Ohio Saline from the 26th of August 1818 to the 4th Decr in same year and drew upon the lessees in favor of Mr. Kitchell as follows.

Upon Timothy Puard for	Bushels	270
" " George Robinson "	"	275
" " James Ratcliff "	"	272 $\frac{3}{4}$
" " John Taylor "	"	180 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " Hargrave and Fisher "	"	204

and advised those gentlemen of the drafts.

By Saturdays Mail I recd a letter from Mr. Kitchell informing me that he had Called upon the lessees who refused to pay the Salt. Unwilling to proceed hastily in this business I have to

1. Abner Armstrong: on November 28, 1814, Governor Edwards had appointed him sheriff of Edwards County.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications, III.



request that you will make inquiry of those Gentlemen as to the fact and procure such additional information as you may deem necessary and report the result of your inquiry to me as soon as possible.

Mr. Kitchell informed me further that he had procured a quantity of Salt from Mr. R. and obliged himself to obtain a Credit in favor of Mr. Robinson to the amount upon his first instalment Coming due under the late Contract. That Mr. R. may not be unapprized of my determination you will inform him that no such Credit will be allowed. The proceeds of the Saline are especially pledged for another purpose. If you have not yet procured from Genl White the leases which I mentioned to you in a former Communication I wish you to do so without delay and after procuring the additional securities forward them to me (if no safe opportunity immediately occurs) by mail.

I also requested you in a former letter to procure the notes of the lessees for the Rent Contracted to be by them paid and have them deposited in the bank of Illinois for my use and that of my successors in office.

I have the honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

COL WILLIS HARGRAVE

SHADRACH BOND

Copy of a letter to Judge Browne.<sup>1</sup>

KASKASKIA, June 22, 1819

*Dear Sir*—I this day received the resignation of Judge Foster owing to which Circumstance it devolves by Law upon you to hold the Court on the Seventh of next month in the Second Judicial Circuit.

As you must be unacquainted with the Law touching this Case owing to its not being promulgated—I herewith enclose such parts of the Law Regulating and defining the Duties of the

1. Thomas C. Browne: born in Kentucky whence he emigrated to Shawneetown, Illinois, in 1812; December 24, 1814, appointed by Governor Edwards prosecuting attorney for the counties of Gallatin, Johnson and Edwards; 1814-16, represented Gallatin County in the second territorial General Assembly; 1816-18, member of territorial council; January 13, 1817, appointed circuit attorney; October 8, 1818-December 4, 1848, justice of Supreme Court of Illinois; 1822, unsuccessful candidate for Governor; 1836, unsuccessful candidate for United States Senator.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887; James, E. J., *Territorial Records of Illinois*, Ill. Hist. Lib. Publications, III.

Justices of the Supreme Court, as will guide you in the present case.

I am &c

SHADRACH BOND

N. B. It becomes necessary that the Circuit attorney of that Circuit should be apprized through you of the above circumstance.

SHADRACH BOND

Copy of Sections 21, 22, 40, 41, 42, 43, 44 and 45 were sent with the foregoing letter.

Copy of a letter addressed to Mr. William Prince and Judge Parke of Vincennes.

KASKASKIA, June 24, 1819

*Sir*—Your letter of the 20th inst. was this day received. In answer to which I have to observe that no power is vested in me to organize a Court under any Circumstances.

Justice Foster whose duty it was to have holden the Court in Crawford Co. owing to Causes to me unknown neglected it; his resignation was received yesterday. Previous to his resignation he had directed the Sheriff of Crawford County to Summon a Jury for a Court which was to be held on the 7th of next month. It is now the duty of Justice Brown to organize the Court in that County, who, having been apprized by Letter of Justice Foster's resignation, will proceed to hold the Court which was ordered to be held by Judge Foster on the 7th of next month.

I am Gentlemen Yr Mo Obt Servt &c

SHADRACH BOND

B. PARKE & W. PRINCE, Vincennes.

Copy of a letter to the Hon. J. Q. Adams.

KASKASKIA, July 23d, 1819

*Sir*—I have received two full sets of Waites State papers and part of a third set the 3rd 4th 9th & 10th vols are wanting to Complete the latter. I have delayed writing upon this subject

thus long hoping that those vols. would arrive. I have also received Scyberts Statistics.

I have the honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

SHADRACH BOND

Copy of letter to J. Kitchel.

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

KASKASKIA, August 7th, 1819

*Dr Sir*—Yrs of the 27th July to the Governor has been received. He instructs me to inform you that orders were sent in due time directing elections to be held in your quarter for Militia officers. Col Hargrave will be instructed to pay you at the bank of Illinois one thousand eighty two dollars and two cents with interest from the 31st March last. Any further claims you may have upon the Government for the failure in the salt contract can only be satisfied by the legislature. It is possible that Col Hargrave will not be able to pay you the whole amount in the money you speak of. He will be instructed however to make as just and satisfactory an arrangement as the funds in his control will justify.

I am Dr Sir &c

E. K. KANE

Secretary of State

Copy of letter to Col Hargrave.

KASKASKIA, August 7th, 1819

*Sir*—Your letter of 18th July ulto is now before me I approve the transfer of Robinson to Joseph R. G. Poole it being understood that Robinson and his securities are not to be exonerated from any obligations imposed by the lease of Robinson upon them. As to the failure of Funkhouser as you say I shall hear from you again upon the subject. I will await your further advice. In the mean time however you will take care that as long as the rent is not paid that Funkhouser does not dispose of or remove from the premises any of the kettles or property which by his contract are forfeited to the state. You will in order to preserve this injunction if circumstances require such a measure,

enter and take possession of the premises leased by Funkhouser together with his kettles, furnaces, improvements &c. Give me early notice as to the probability or improbability of Funkhousers compliance with the terms of his contract that I may take measures accordingly.

I have caused Judge Kitchel to be notified that you will pay him at the bank of Illinois \$1082.02 with interest upon that amount from the 31st of March last at the rate of six per centum per annum. Perhaps if Robinson has not yet paid his rent that you may effect an arrangement by Giving Robinson a receipt for that amount, should such a course be satisfactory to both parties. If not you will raise what money you have deposited in bank to my credit upon the inclosed draft or so much as will pay the draft. Should there not be money enough to satisfy the draft, If Mr. Kitchel chooses, you may take balance in warrants which have been deposited by the lessees in bank, taking care to compute interest due on the warrants and take it into account. You will also require those who fail to pay rent at the time stipulated by contract to pay interest from the time these several payments are come due. This arrangement you will not make with Kitchel except upon his surrendering to you my orders for salt.

I am &c

SHADRACH BOND

Copy of order or Drft refered to in foregoing letter.

P S Wm Wilson Esq<sup>1</sup> has been apptd justice of the supreme court to fill the vacancy occasioned by Judge Fosters resignation.

P S Since the above was written yrs of 30th July, 1819 has been recd I am glad Funkhouser has paid up. Did you require him to pay interest?  
\$1082.02

1. William Wilson: born April 27, 1794 in London County, Virginia; 1817, moved to Illinois; 1818, unsuccessful candidate for justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois; 1819, settled near Carmi in White County; July 7, 1819-January 19, 1825, justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois; January 19, 1825-December 4, 1848, chief justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois; April 29, 1857, died; in politics Wilson was a Whig until the dissolution of the party when he became a Democrat.—Davidson, Alexander and Stuve, Bernard *History of Illinois*, Springfield, 1884.

KASKASKIA, August 7th, 1819

CASHIER OF BANK OF ILLINOIS

Pay to Willis Hargrave or order the sum of one thousand eighty two dollars and two cents with interest at the rate of six per centum per annum from the 31st day of March last until the day you receive this draft and place the same to account of

Your obt Servt

SHADRACH BOND

Governor of State of Illinois

Copy of a letter to J B McCall Esq

KASKASKIA, August 10th, 1819

*Sir*—I have received no official documents concerning the Indians which have escaped from confinement in Crawford County. Should you ascertain their place of retreat I shall feel much obliged to you to give me early information that I may take measures to secure them. I have thought it most advisable to delay offering a reward through the medium of the public papers, for their apprehension a short time, believing from the information I have received that it would only tend to render their final escape more sure. Should they go on the west side of the Mississippi, I think I shall know it. It appears to me probable that they have or will take that course.

I am Dr Sir Yr Mo Obt

SHADRACH BOND

Substance of a letter addressed to Major Woolley of the ordnance Department.

The Governor concluded to take the quota for this State altogether in muskets, which is 63. to be sent direct to Kaskaskia At the expense of the United States.

Copy of a letter to Genl Willis Hargrave.

KASKASKIA, Nov. 27th, 1819

*Dr Sir*—Yr favour of the 20th instant I received by the last mail. My understanding (and I have no doubt such was the

impression of the legislature) at the time the old contract was surrendered was that the rent due was to be paid in salt & not money. You will again Demand the salt and receive and sell it from those who will deliver it. You will inform me as soon as possible which of the lessees refused to deliver the salt, and I shall put the contracts into the hands of the Attorney General, when appointed, that coercive measures may be adopted. My intention was that the rents should be paid into the bank of Illinois subject to my order. As however you have taken out of bank the money deposited, it is my wish that you send the same to me by the first safe opportunity. The money is much wanted in the Treasury to redeem warrants that are drawing interest. I have no authority to consent to any other disposition of it. The second half years rent becomes due shortly. I wish it collected as soon as due and transmitted to me. Judge Wilson will be coming here to attend the Supreme Court and would it not be well to send the money by him? And if practicable to collect the second half years rent to send by him also. I wish it understood by the lessees that it is my fixed determination to insist rigidly upon punctual payments & that no indulgence will be given. Inclosed I send you a list of money which you are authorized to receive.

I am Dr Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

SHADRACH BOND

P S The Mechanics bank of Alexandria not receivable. You will of course receive warrants upon the Treasury. You will forward the North Carolina and Tennessee paper you speak of.

Copy of letter from Gov. to Captn Truman Blackman.

KASKASKIA, Dec. 9th, 1819

*Sir*—I have received the affidavit and letters sent me in your behalf. Upon the subject of leasing the Saline you claim to have discovered I can only remark that no reservation has yet been made by the President of the United States of lands to include it. I shall however without delay use my exertions to procure the reservation until which time I possess no power to grant a lease. I feel a strong disposition to encourage by every

means in my power the first discoverers of salt springs within this state.

I have the Honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt  
CAPTN TRUMAN BLACKMAN S. BOND

Copy of a letter addressed to the Govrs of Ohio & Indiana

KASKASKIA, Dec. 17, 1819

THE HON. H. CLAY AND OUR MEMBERS IN CONGRESS.

*Sir*—In pursuance of the directions of the Genl Assembly of this State I have the honor herewith to transmit to you a Copy of the Resolution adopted at their last session in relation to the national Road deterring their exertions to effect the object contemplated in the resolution.

Signed SHADRACH BOND

KASKASKIA, Dec. 20th, 1819

*Sir*—I have seen Judge Wilson and suppose you could not have seen him after the receipt of my last letter to you. I enclose you a Copy of the Attorney General's opinion upon the subject of the old Contracts. It will be necessary for you, if you have not already done so, to make a formal demand of the rent due from the lessees under their Contracts with the President of the U. States. If they pay salt take it or the price for which salt would have sold at the time it became due. You will also designate some convenient spot within the limits of the Saline tract for delivery.

It is now determined to take the course of Law with all those who do not comply. I wish all the rent due to be collected and speedily sent on to me. I would name Mr. Robinson Cir. Atty. for your Cir. as a fit person to send the money by as I learn he is to come here shortly. I am anxious to see you and if you will come on yourself your expenses will be allowed you.

I am Dr Sir Yrs &c

Signed SHADRACH BOND

(Copy)

GENL HARGRAVE

Copy of a letter to J. B. Thomas, N. Edwards & D. P. Cook.<sup>1</sup>

KASKASKIA, Dec. 20, 1819

On the 3d of April last I wrote the Secretary of the Treasury that Salines had been discovered upon Sections 22 & 23 in Township No. 2 north Range No. 7 East of the 3d principal meridian & requested that the usual reservations of Land for the use of the same might be made. I have not received the answer of the Secretary. Will you have the goodness to communicate with him upon the subject and let me know the determination of the Government. A valuable Salt Spring has been discovered upon the Vermilion River in the eastern part of the state and I have received several applications to lease it.

The lands about have not been surveyed & I can not lease it until some reservation of Land from public sale shall be made for its use. Will it not be possible to obtain a reservation before the surveys are made? Please to give me an early answer.

I have the honor to be Gent. Yrs &c

Signed

SHADRACH BOND

KASKASKIA, Dec. 25, 1819

Sir—On the 3rd of April last I had the honor to inform you by letter of that date that salt springs had been discovered upon Sections No. 22 and 23 in Town No. 2 north of Range No. 7 east of the 3d principal meridian in this state and to request that reservations of land for the use of the same might be made I am anxious to learn the determination of the Govt upon this subject. Has the Govt established any general rule upon these sub-

1. Daniel Pope Cook: born 1794, in Scott County, Kentucky; 1811, he went to St. Genevieve, Missouri; 1813, removed to Kaskaskia, Illinois; 1815, admitted to the bar; 1816, became part owner and editor of "The Illinois Intelligencer;" January 13, 1816–April 5, 1817, auditor of public accounts of Illinois Territory; 1816–18, clerk of House of Representatives of Third Territorial Legislature; January 13, 1818, appointed judge for western circuit, but resigned May 27, 1818; October 9, 1818–March 15, 1819, attorney-general of the state; December 1819–March 18, 1827, congressional representative; 1826, unsuccessful congressional candidate; March 1827, sent by President John Quincy Adams as secret messenger to Havana; October 16, 1827, died at Scott County, Kentucky, where he was buried, though his residence was at Edwardsville; he was one of the founders of Waterloo; in politics, he was an anti-Jackson man.—James, E. J., *Territorial Records*; Edwards, W. W., *Life of Ninian Edwards*; Washburne, E. B., *Edwards Papers*, Chicago Historical Society Collections, III; Adams, John Quincy, *Memoirs*, Philadelphia, 1874–77.



jects. What evidence will be required of the discovery of a salt spring. As early an answer as will suit your convenience will be thankfully received. The assignment of the contract of lease between the President of the U States and Joel Smith for the Shoal Creek Saline has never reached me.

I have the honor to be Sir Yr. Mo. Obt. Servt.

(Signed)

SHADRACH BOND

(Copy)

WM. H. CRAWFORD

Copy of Instructions to Genl. Hargrave.

KASKASKIA, Jany 8th, 1820

General Hargrave will give notice to the several lessees of the Ohio Saline not to make any further deposits on account of rent due or which may become due to this state in the bank of Illinois, unless the same bank will receive the money upon general deposit, and be responsible to the State for any kind of money I may call for to the amount of the deposit, It being understood that I hold myself bound at all times to receive audited warrants from the bank.

S BOND

Copy of letter to Wm. H. Crawford, Secy of Treasury.

KASKASKIA, Jany 19th, 1820

*Sir*—By your letter of 4th January 1819, you inform me upon the subject of the Ohio Saline leases that “at the expiration of the leases the kettles are subject to the disposition of the government of the United States but they will be transferred either to the state or to the next lessees upon easy terms.” It will be suspected that the leases, refered to by you, expire in the month of June next. The lessees surrendered their leases to the state and leased again from this State and their new leases expire in December next. To take up the kettles in June will be a work of some expense and the business of salt making will necessarily be suspended two or three weeks during a profitable season. It is thought that suffering the kettles to remain from June to December cannot materially effect the interests of the U States and the object of this letter is to inquire whether the Govt of the

U States will consent to it and upon what terms? I entertain strong hopes that our next legislature will provide for purchasing the metal for the use of the State, should it not be previously sold. The legislature will convene the 1st Monday in Dec next.

I have the honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

SHADRACH BOND

Honble Wm. H. CRAWFORD, Secy of Treasury U. States.

Copy of a letter to Honble Mssrs Edwards Thomas & Cook.

KASKASKIA, Jan'y 29th, 1820

THE HONBLE MSSRS EDWARDS, THOMAS & COOK.

I have the Honor to enclose to you a copy of a letter I have written to the Secretary of the Treasury of the United States and to request that you will (should the same meet your approbation) see the Secretary upon the Subject.

I have the Honor to be &c

SHADRACH BOND

Copy of a letter to Gl. Hargrave.

KASKASKIA, March 29th, 1820

Sir—In answer to yours of the 23d inst, I do authorize you to sell to Magr. Barker or any other person upon *good security* the salt due from the 26th August to 4th of Dec. 1818 at the price of \$1.25 per bushel at 3 & 6 months credit. Your statement together with others to the same effect induces me to suspend for the present the taking possession of the works. In doing this the lessees must be sensible that I incur great responsibility and I hope their exertions to obtain money will not be relaxed. You may receive in addition to money heretofore authorized notes upon the state bank of North Carolina, State bank of South Carolina, Farmers bank of Virginia, all the branches of the bank of Virginia, Bank of Mississippi at Natches, as this money will be received at the Treasury.

I am Dr Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

S BOND

P S I have recd advice from the Secretary of the Treasury that the metal can remain as it is until December next—inform the lessees of it.

Copy of a letter from Govr to Genl Hargrave.

KASKASKIA, June 9th, 1820

*Sir*—I want to hear from you upon the subject of the Saline. The first half of the second years rent is now due. Obtain the whole rent due if possible, and send it by Judge Wilson when he comes on to attend the Supreme Court. Get what part of the money you can and let me know what the prospect is of getting the whole. The State is so much in want of money that I do not feel authorized to grant any further indulgence.

I am Dr Sir Yr Mo OB Servt.

S BOND

Copy of a letter to Genl Hargrave.

KASKASKIA, July 13th, 1820

*Dr Sir*—You will have the goodness to direct suits to be commenced against Funkhouser and his securities, also against Robinson and his securities upon their respective covenants of lease. You will furnish the Circuit Attorney with a copy of the leases. I have no objections that the securities should make use of my name in any necessary way to secure themselves by attaching the effects of Funkhouser or Robinson. It being understood that the State is not to be liable for any costs & charges which may accrue in any suit to be commenced for the benefit of the securities. All other lessees who do not pay the rent due thirty days previous to the next term of the circuit court for Gallatin County must also be sued.

I am Dr Sir Yr Mo Ob Servt

S BOND

P S If you think it will be safe to wait upon Robinson a short time longer, you are at liberty to do so.

KASKASKIA, July 20th, 1820

JOHN BADOLETT, Esqr

*Sir*—By the act of Congress of the 15th May Ultio entitled "An Act to authorize the Governor of Illinois to obtain certain

abstracts of lands from certain public offices," it is made the duty of the Register of the land office at Vincennes to furnish the Governor of Illinois upon his application with complete abstracts of lands which have been purchased at his office which lie within this state<sup>1</sup>. Will you Sir have the goodness to furnish me, as speedily as will comport with your convenience, with such an abstract as is by that law referred to, also with an abstract of the old locations (which have been confirmed) within the limits of this State. When the abstracts are forwarded, please to draw upon me for the amount of your fees and your draft shall be duly paid.

I have the honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

S BOND

KASKASKIA, (Ill.,) July 28th, 1820

THE HBLE WM. H. CRAWFORD

*Sir*—By an act of congress entitled "An Act to authorize the Governor of Illinois to obtain certain abstracts of lands from certain public offices" passed the 15th of May ulto amongst other things it is provided and made the duty of the Secretary of the Treasury, upon the application of the Governor of this state, to cause a complete abstract to be made out for the use of the state of all the military bounty lands which have been patented to the soldiers of the late army lying within the state. Permit me sir to make the request that the abstract referred to may be made out and forwarded to me as soon as it will comport with the convenience of your department. The dates of the patents are material to be known that it may be ascertained when the right to take the lands commences.

I have the Honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

S BOND

KASKASKIA, Octr 5th, 1820

GENL HARGRAVE

*Sir*—I have given notice that on the fourth Monday of the

1. John Badolett: born 1758, in Geneva, Switzerland; 1776, came to United States with Albert Gallatin and settled in Pennsylvania where he held several state offices; November 22, 1804, appointed land commissioner in the district of Vincennes by President Jefferson; 1807, member of first board of trustees of Vincennes University; 1816, represented Knox County in the First Constitutional Convention of Indiana; 1836, resigned position as register of land-office; July 29, 1837, died.—Cauthorn, Henry S., *History of Vincennes, Terre Haute*, 1901

present month the several salt establishments at the Ohio Saline will be leased. If you can make it convenient to attend on that day at this place I should be much gratified, as your knowledge of the works and manufactory of Salt would be very necessary for me and you will also bring with you the plat or map of the works.

I have the Honor to be Sir Yr Mo Obt Servt

S BOND

P S—Your presence is almost indispensable. If you can not come on however please to send the plat by mail or otherwise.

S BOND

Govr gave the following notice & had the same published according to law Towit—

#### PUBLIC NOTICE

is hereby given that I will receive proposals until the 4th Monday of October next at Kaskaskia for leasing the several Salt manufacturing establishments at the Ohio and Wabash Salines for the terms of 3 4 5 and 6 years, commencing from the fourth day of December next. Persons making proposals will specify the amount (in cash) they will give per annum for each of the said terms of years. The rent will be required to be paid half yearly. The lessee before he takes possession of any establishment will be required to pay the previous lessee for all metal he may have been compelled to purchase for the purpose of salt making at a valuation to be fixed upon by one person chosen by the undersigned or some duly authorized agent of his, and one person to be chosen by such previous lessee and in case of disagreement between such persons they are to choose a third, and if the amount thus fixed upon shall not be paid within thirty days after the fourth day of December next, the lease is to be void and of no effect. The person leasing will be required to give good security to be approved by the undersigned for the performance of the contracts of lease. The leases will contain such conditions and stipulations for the preservation of the timber and property of the State attached to the Saline as have heretofore been required and such further conditions and stipulations as the undersigned may think expedient. Proposals will also be received

for leasing the stone, tavern house and appurtenances thereunto belonging for the same terms of time.

SHADRACH BOND

August 19, 1820

N B The price of salt will be limited to one dollar and twenty five cents a bushel.

Copy of a letter addressed to Genl W. Hargrave.

*Sir*—You are hereby instructed and expressly authorized a few days previous to the expiration of the leases for the Ohio & Wabash Saline entered into the years 1814, which leases expire on the 4th of December next, to seize & take possession of metal found on the premises of the respective lessees and proceed to have the same valued according to the directions contained in the leases of the present year.

(signed) SHADRACH BOND

Copy of a letter addressed to Genl. H. Atkinson.<sup>1</sup>

KASKASKIA, Oct. 26, 1820

*Sir*—Your letter dated St. Louis Dec. 4th, 1820 enclosing a copy of one bearing date Aug. 2d. 1820 has been duly received. I am unable to give any correct statement of the description & extent of the buildings comprising Fort Massac which by your letter was requested. I am informed that the works were first built by the American Govt. in the year '93 or '94 and afterwards rebuilt in the year 1813 by the Capt. Philips.

I am of the opinion that the works are of little value and it will be unnecessary ever to occupy them again with a Military force. I have the honor to be with great respect Yr Mo Obt Servt.

(Signed)

S BOND

1. Henry Atkinson: born 1782, in Person County, North Carolina; July 1, 1808, appointed captain by President Jefferson, confirmed by the Senate, February 2, 1809; April 25, 1813, made inspector-general; April 15, 1814, appointed colonel by President Madison; May 13, 1821, appointed brigadier-general by President Monroe; June 21, 1821, promoted to adjutant-general; January 26, 1825, appointed commissioner to make treaty with Indian tribes beyond the Mississippi; June 14, 1842, died at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri.—*National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, XI., 504.

Instructions to Genl. Hargrave.

VANDALIA

Genl Hargrave will attend & see that the leases are properly executed, and that the stipulations contained therein are not in any particulars violated. Genl Hargrave will take especial care that no lessee take possession of an establishment until all the Metal which the previous lessee has purchased for salt making has been paid for according to the valuation and the contract.

Signed

SHADRACH BOND

Decr 15th, 1820

## CHAPTER II

### EXECUTIVE LETTER-BOOK OF EDWARD COLES, 1822-1826

Copy of a letter addressed to the Governor of Indiana.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, December 31, 1822

*Sir*—With the hope of its being received prior to the adjournment of the Legislature of Indiana. I hasten to transmit you a copy of an act just passed by the General Assembly of this State entitled "An act relating to the navigation of the river Wabash." By letting me know the determination of Indiana in relation to the highly interesting object contemplated by it, you will confer a particular favor on your fellow citizen.

EDWARD COLES<sup>1</sup>

To the Governor of the State of Indiana.

Copy of a letter addressed to N. Edwards, J. B. Thomas & D. P. Cook Esq., Members of Congress.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS Jany. 5, 1823

*Gentlemen*,—In the year 1819 a Saline was discovered on the Vermilion River in this State, which was examined the ensuing year, in conformity to instructions received from the commissioner of the General Land Office, by Col. Th. Cox<sup>2</sup> the Register of the

1. Edward Coles: born December 15, 1786, in Albemarle County, Virginia; 1805-7, attended William and Mary College; 1809-15, private secretary of President Madison; 1815, visited Northwest Territory; 1816, sent by President Madison as special messenger to Russia; 1818, visited Illinois; 1819, removed to Edwardsville, Illinois; March 5, 1819-1822, register of land-office at Edwardsville; 1822-26 governor of Illinois; 1830, unsuccessful candidate for United States Senate; 1833 moved to Philadelphia; November 28, 1833, married Sally Logan Roberts; July 7, 1868, died at Philadelphia and was buried at Woodland.—Washburne, E. B., *Sketch of Edward Coles*, Chicago, 1882.

2. Thomas Cox: born 1787 in Kentucky; 1809, emigrated to Kaskaskia, Illinois; 1810, appointed by Governor Edwards a deputy-sheriff; March 24, 1813, appointed ensign in Second Regiment; April 19, 1814, appointed lieutenant in Second Regiment; 1815, married Roba Bartlett at Ste. Genevieve, Missouri; 1816, moved to Jonesboro; April 8, 1818, appointed justice of the peace for Union County; June 3, 1818, appointed captain in Third Regiment; 1818-22, state senator from Union County; May 15, 1820-January 20, 1823, appointed by President Monroe Register of land-office at Vandalia for District of Illi-





*Edward Coles*



Land Office at this place, who reported that "from all appearances there was little reason to doubt of its being Saline of more than ordinary value," and recommended that the Govt. should reserve from sale and appropriate for the use of the Saline a tract of Land which "should extend two miles on each side of the Creek, & about ten miles in length, extending about six miles below Blackmans wells." Since Col. Cox made his examination and report, the Lands in that district of country have been surveyed and the Saline has been found to be in Section *Sixteen* in Township 19 N. of Range 12 W. of the 2d principal Meridian. In a letter addressed by Mr. Meigs to Govr. Bond dated August 28, 1822, he says "The President of the U. S. has approved of the reservation suggested by Th. Cox who was appointed to examine those salines in 1820." And adds that "Mr. Kitchell the Register of the Land Office at Palestine has been requested to designate, according to the best of his Judgment the lands alluded to in Mr. Cox's report by section Township & Range, and to exempt them from sale." This Mr. Kitchell informs me he has done but has suggested a small alteration in the reservation as proposed by Mr. Cox.

In the letter above referred to Mr. Meigs says "as Section No. 16 in township 19 N. of Range No. 12 W. of the 2nd. principal Mn. is covered by a Salt spring, I would suggest, as the Secretary of the Treasury is at present absent from the city, that you (Gov. Bond) make a selection of a section in the same township for the purposes of education and report the same, to the Register of the Land Office at Palestine who will reserve the same from sale until the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury shall have been obtained."

In accordance with this suggestion Gov. Bond authorized Mr. Kitchell the Register of the Land Office at Palestine to select another section in lieu of section 16, who selected and reserved

nois; January 28, 1823, appointed by President Monroe receiver of public money for District of Sangamon, for four years; 1832, served in Black Hawk War; August, 1832, removed to Ste. Genevieve, Missouri; May 6, 1837, appointed U. S. deputy surveyor in Jackson County, Iowa; May, 1837, moved to White Oak Springs, Iowa County, Wisconsin; 1838, settled on Maquoketa River in Jackson County, Iowa; 1838-1841, representative in Territorial Legislature of Iowa; 1842-44, member of territorial council in which he served as president; November 9, 1844, died.—James, *Territorial Records*; Reid, Harvey, "Colonel Thomas Cox," in *Annals of Iowa*, January 1906.

from sale section No. *twenty eight* of the same township for the purpose of education.

With a knowledge of these facts, but without knowing whether the proper sanction had been given to the exchange of the 16th section or of a more formal approbation of the President to the reservation as designated by Mr. Kitchell, I have been induced by the earnest solicitation of the parties claiming to have discovered the Saline, who have been applying for a lease for the last three years, to lease it (viz: the West half of section 16, and the east half of Section 17) to them for the term of four years under the provisions of the act entitled "An act to encourage the discovery of salt water."

I have thought proper to state these facts for your information & to enable you to have perfected the title of the State to the Reservation in question and the proper sanction given to the exchange of the 16th. section; and I am the more particular in calling your attention to them as doubts are entertained by some whether Legislative provisions may not be required in one or possibly both cases.

Permit me also to call your attention to the fact that proper titles have not been received for the grants of Land which the Federal Govt. has made to this State for the use of Salines & for the location of its seat of Govt. By having Patents made out & forwarded to this office you will render us acceptable service to this State and a particular favor on your fellow Citizen.

EDWARD COLES

N. EDWARDS, J. B. THOMAS, D. P. COOK, Esqrs., Members of Congress from Illinois

Copy of a letter addressed to each of our Members of Congress.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

VANDALIA, Jany. 11, 1823

Sir—I transmit you a joint Resolution of the two houses of the General Assembly, requesting you to use your best efforts to prevail on Congress to permanently locate and mark the con-

templated continuation of the National turnpike<sup>1</sup> road from Wheeling to the Mississippi River, in order that the States through which it passes may if they think proper, open & improve the same.

I am very respectfully,

EDWARD COLES

Copy of a letter addressed to the President of the U. S.

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, Jany. 20, 1823

Sir—I have the honor to transmit you a Memorial of the General Assembly of Illinois, respectfully requesting that you will have designated as soon as it may be convenient, the thirty-six sections, or one entire township of Land, granted by Congress to this State for the use of a Seminary of Learning<sup>2</sup> and to assure you of my great respect & sincere regard.

EDWARD COLES

1. The National Turnpike, or the Cumberland Road, extended from Cumberland on the Potomac River to the Mississippi, a distance of 700 miles. It passed from Maryland through the states of Pennsylvania, Virginia, Ohio, Indiana and Illinois and touched the towns of Somerfield, Uniontown, Brownsville, Washington, Wheeling, Cambridge, Zanesville and St. Louis. The first intimation of Congressional attitude on the subject was given in the enabling act of Ohio, 1802, when a certain per centage of land sales was to be applied to the making of a national road. In 1809 a law was passed authorizing the president to appoint a committee of three to mark out the road from or near Cumberland to the Ohio River. The road was to be four rods in width, and when plans had been approved by the president, he was authorized to obtain the consent of the states concerned and then to proceed in the construction. The first contracts were let April 16, 1811, and seven years later travel had begun between Cumberland and Wheeling, Virginia. In 1820, Congress appropriated money to carry on the work from Wheeling through the capitals of the states of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois to a point on the left bank of the Mississippi between St. Louis and the mouth of the Illinois. The work was immediately begun and by 1833 the road had reached Columbus. Indianapolis was then made the center of operations and the road built eastward and westward from that point. But the road was never graded and bridged beyond Vandalia, Illinois, though it was located to the Mississippi. The total outlay was \$7,000,000.—Hulbert, A. B., *Historic Highways of America*, Vol. 10, Cleveland, 1904.

2. Seminary lands: By the enabling act of April 18, 1818, the state was granted section number sixteen in every township for the schools of that township, and two townships of land for a seminary of learning. The state was also to receive three per cent of the land sales within the state, one-sixteenth of which was to be expended on the college or seminary. Under the superintendence of Governors Coles, Edwards and Reynolds, the selection of the seminary lands was made, not in whole townships but in tracts of land consisting of at least two sections. At first the lands were leased and the rents paid in improvements, but in 1829 the state adopted the policy of selling the seminary lands and borrowing the proceeds to pay current expenses. Forty-three thousand two hundred acres were thus sold at an average price of \$3.78 an acre, though sometimes as low as seventy cents. The Bloomington State Normal and the Southern Illinois Normal University share between themselves the proceeds of the seminary fund.

Copy of a letter addressed to the Governor of Indiana.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, February 25, 1823

*Sir*—On the 31st. of Dec. last I wrote & transmitted to you, a copy of an act passed the day before by the Legislature of the State entitled “An Act relating to the Navigation of the River Wabash.” Not having since had the pleasure to hear from you & fearing my communication may not have been recd. in time to be acted on by the Legislature of Indiana at its last Cession, I am ordered again to call your attention to the subject from my conviction of its great importance to the interest of this State.

It has occured to me that if the Legislature of Indiana should not have passed a supplemental act, the examination of the Wabash might still be made to the extent contemplated by the Legislature of Illinois. By the Act of Indiana, approved Jan'y 2, 1822 the Governor is authorized to appoint one or more commissioners to examine, in conjunction with commissioners from this State, the Grand Rapids, and the obstructions in the River for fifteen miles above & below them. By the act of Illinois approved Dec. 30th, 1822, the Governor is authorized to appoint one or more commissioners to examine in conjunction with the commissioners from Indiana, the obstructions in the navigation of the Wabash River from its mouth to the point due North of Vincennes where it ceases to be the boundery between the two States. From this it appears that the only difference in the two acts is as to the extent of the examination; and as the act of your Legislature authorises you to appoint more than one commissioner, I would respectfully suggest, whether you would not be authorised to extend the examination beyond the letter of the law on your reducing the number of the commissioners and thus confining the expenditure to the sum contemplated by the Legislature. In consequence of the greatest difficulty in the Navigation being at the Grand Rapids, it is believed that one Commissioner on the part of each State could examine to the extent desired by Illinois, at less expense than three commissioners to the extent authorised by Indiana.

I should be gratified to hear from you on this subject as soon

as it may be convenient. In the mean time I remain very respectfully yours.

EDWARD COLES

To the Governor of Indiana

Copy of a letter addressed to the Governor of Ohio.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, April 10, 1823

*Sir*—It was not until a few days since that I had the honor to receive your letter of the 23d February in which you enclosed me a Resolution of Concurrence on the part of the Legislature of Ohio in certain Resolutions Passed by the State of Kentucky, "having for their object the preservation of harmony between that State and the adjoining non-Slaveholding States" and requesting me to inform you what measure Illinois had adopted in relation to this subject. I have the honor to state in reply that the Resolutions of Kentucky above referred to, were submitted to and considered by the Legislature of this State at its late session and after several ineffectual attempts to make provisions for the appointment of Commissioners in compliance with the request of Kentucky, the measure finally failed, in consequence of the two houses not being able to agree in some of the details of the bill.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

The Governor of the State of Ohio

Copy of a letter addressed to Conrad Will, Esq.

VANDALIA, April 10, 1823

*Sir*—I did not receive until a few days since, your letter of Feby. 23d. in which you make a proposition to lease the Muddy Saline for the term of ten years, the first two years to be free of rent, and after that to pay at the rate of one hundred dollars a year. Under the impressions I have, I do not consider it would be to the interest of the State to accept your proposition. I will however seek further information on the subject; and if I should

have reason to change my opinion, I will again write you. If on the other hand you should on further reflection be disposed to make a more advantageous offer to the State it will afford me pleasure to hear from you.

In the mean time I am respectfully Yours

EDWARD COLES

CONRAD WILL,<sup>1</sup> Esq., Brownsville, Jackson Co., Ill.

Copy of a letter addressed to W. H. Crawford, Esq.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, May 11, 1823

*Sir*—In reply to a letter addressed to you on the 27th. of July, 1822 by my predecessor in office relative to the Vermillion Salines, Mr. Meigs (in a letter to Governor Bond dated Augt. 28) Stated that "the President of the United States had approved of the reservation suggested by Th. Cox who was appointed to examine the Saline in 1820 " that "Mr. Kitchell, the Register of the land office at Palestine had been requested to designate, according to the best of his judgment, the Lands alluded to in Mr. Cox's report by sections, Township and Range, and to exempt them from sale"—To which Mr. Meigs added, "as section No. 16 in Township 19 North in Range No. 12 west of the 2d principal Meridian, is covered by a salt spring, I would suggest as the secretary of the Treasury is at present absent from the City, that you (Governor Bond) make a selection of a section in the same Township, for the purposes of Education, and report the same to the Register of the Land Office at Palestine, who will reserve the same from sale until the decision of the Secretary of the Treasury shall have been obtained. This designation of the

1. Conrad Will: born June 3, 1779, at Philadelphia; 1804, married Susanah Kimmel in Somerset County, Pennsylvania; 1813, moved to Illinois and settled at Kaskaskia; April 19, 1814, appointed Justice of the Peace of Randolph County, by Governor Edwards; 1815, moved to Brownsville; March 25, 1816, appointed Justice of the Peace of Jackson County, which he resigned October 31, 1817; April 6-May 20, 1817, recorder of Jackson County; 1817, member of Board of County Commissioners of Jackson County; February 5, 1818, appointed Justice of the Peace for Jackson County; March 13, 1818, appointed to take census in Jackson County; 1818, represented Jackson County in Constitutional Convention; 1818-20, state senator; 1820-28, state representative; 1828-35, state senator; June 11, 1835, died near Brownsville, where he was buried.—James, *Territorial Records*; Snyder, John F., "Forgotten Statesmen of Illinois," *Transactions Ill. Hist. Society*, 1905.



reservation and selection of another section in lieu of sixteen, have been made by Mr. Kitchell, and I presume reported to you by him. The object of this letter therefore is, to obtain from the Govt. the express designation and formal reservation of lands for the Vermillion Saline, and its consent to the exchange of the 16 section, and to the selection which has been made of section No. 28 in the same township for the purposes of Education. Attention to the subject has become the more necessary, as relying on the Governments fulfilling the declarations and suggestions of Mr. Meigs, I was induced in December last to yield to the importunities of the persons who claim to have made the discovery of the Saline, and who had been for several years waiting impatiently for the Lands to be surveyed (during which time some of them had been making Salt in a small way) to grant them a lease for four years, on condition of their working and improving the saline.

Knowing it to be the wish of many that some of the fine Lands lately surveyed in the Sangamon Land district should be appropriated for a seminary of Learning I avail myself of this occasion to inform you, that I transmitted to the President of the U. S. on the 20th. of January last, a memorial addressed to him by the Legislature of this State on this subject, to which I beg leave to refer you. You will see by perusing it, that the Legislature think it optional with the President to select one entire township or 36 sections separte [*sic*] and apart from each other, and that they prefer the latter. I am induced to mention this subject to you that it may be in the recollection of the Govt. when they think proper to offer for sale the Lands in Sangamon District.

I am with great respect and esteem your fellow citizen

EDWARD COLES

W. H. CRAWFORD, Esq., Secretary of the Treasury of the United States

Copy of a letter to Wm. Henricks Governor of Indiana.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, May 24, 1823

Sir—In discharge of a duty imposed on me by law, I have

had the honour to address you two letters (one dated the 31st Dec., the other the 25th of Feby. last) on the subject of improving the Navigation of the Wabash River. Having not been honored with a reply to either of these letters, I should not again have troubled you on the Subject, were I not impelled to it by the strongest sense of the obligation imposed on me by the last Legislature, and the conviction of the deep interest the people of this State have in the subject: and I am the more redy [*sic*] to yield to a sense of these obligations, as I entertain too much respect for you personally, and for the State over which you preside, to believe for a moment that you as its Chief Magistrate would treat with intentional neglect the Constituted authorities of the State of Illinois especially in their efforts to carry into effect a measure which originated with Indiana, and on which she is even more deeply interested than Illinois.

Under these impressions I am induced again to call your attention to the duties imposed on us by our respective Legislatures, and urgently, request that I may be informed without further delay of the intentions of Indiana; whether you have been authorized by a subsequent law, or if you have not, whether you would feel yourself justified to make the examination and surveys of the Wabash River to the extent desired by Illinois in the manner suggested by me in my letter of Feby. 25th; or if not to what extent you are willing to go. In one word, I wish to know what is the wish and intention of Indiana in co-operating with Illinois in improving the navigation of the Wabash.

I am with all due respect

EDWARD COLES

WILLIAM HENDRICKS, Governor of Indiana  
Corydon

Copy of a circular addressed to the Governors of the Different States.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, June 10, 1823

*Sir*—In compliance with a law of this State I have the honor herewith to transmit to you three copies of the Acts of the last

Session of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois; and beg leave to request a like interchange of the laws of the State over which you Preside: and I will take the liberty further to add that as this State has had the misfortune to lose by fire the laws heretofore received if there should be a digested code of your Laws in your Department, not required for public use you would confer a favour by transmitting it to this Department.

I am &c &c

EDWARD COLES

Copy of a letter to Wm. Hendricks, Govr. of Indiana.

To the Governor of the State of.....

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, June 14, 1823

*Sir*—Your letter of April 17th (postmark May 1st) was not received until a few days since. I regret you should not consider yourself authorized to make the examination of the Wabash River to the extent desired by Illinois, as suggested in my letter of the 25th of February. Under your impressions, however, of your powers, nothing is left me but to yield my consent and for the present to limit the examination to the extent authorized by the law of Indiana of January 2, 1822; which I more cheerfully do as I persuade myself your Legislature at its next session will expressly authorize the examination to be made to the extent desired by Illinois. I make no objections to the suggestions contained in your letter as to the time of meeting, the number of Commissioners, the place of meeting &c &c, and will in due time make a selection of a commissioner on the part of the State.

I am with great Respect Yours

EDWARD COLES

To the Govr. of Indiana

Corydon

Copy of a letter to Wm. H. Crawford, Secy of Treasury.

EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS, July 19, 1823

*Sir*—I had the honor to receive by the last Mail your letter of the 12th Ultio, giving the sanction of the President of the U. S.

to the reservation made by J. Kitchell of the forty sections of land for the Vermillion Saline and approving of the substitution of section 28 in township nineteen N. of range 12 W. (you state 10 W but this I presume must be a mistake) for the purpose of education, in lieu of the 16 section in the same Township, on which the Vermillion salt springs are situated: and also the Presidents decision, that the Township of land granted by the United States to this state for a seminary of learning, may be located in tracts of not less than two entire sections; and proposing that the selection or location of them be made by or under my direction.

I hasten to express my willingness to have the selection made agreeably to your request. But as the "act to enable the people of the Illinois Territory to form a State Constitution" &c makes it the duty of the President of the U. S. to designate and reserve 36 sections or one entire Township for the use of a seminary of learning—of course the necessary expenses attending the designation should and will be borne by the U. S. I presume on this subject there will be no difference of opinion, but I am desirous of having it correctly understood, and the more so as in this case the expenses will be more than in Ordinary cases, in consequence of the number of persons who have removed to and settled on the Public lands, and made improvements on the most valuable portions of them, will make the duty of selecting the lands in question so peculiarly delicate and responsible that I think it proper that their [*sic*] should be at least three intelligent, honest and independent men diputed to examine the Country, and report what lands should be selected and reserved.

This I propose to do as soon as I conveniently can; but as it will require sometime for them to repair to the Public lands and make the proper examination of them, make their report and have it transmitted to you—and fearing from the tardy movements of the mail, that the presidents approbation may not be received prior to the Land sales—I would respectfully suggest whether it might not be proper to instruct the Register of the and office at Sangamo to reserve from sale such lands as I might report to him. I am with Great Respect and esteem yours

EDWARD COLES

W. H. CRAWFORD, esq., Secretary of the Treasury of the United States

Copy of a letter to W. Hendricks, Govr. of Indiana.

EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS, August 2d, 1823

Sir—I availed myself of the first mail after the date of my letter to you of the 14th June, to write to Thomas S. Hinde<sup>1</sup>, of Mount Carmel, Edwards County, and offered the situation of Commissioner to examine the Grand rapids of the Wabash, in conjunction with a Commissioner to be appointed by you, as agreed on by us. Owing to some extraordinary mismanagement or neglect in the Post Masters, I did not receive an answer from him untill to day. I hasten to say that Mr. Hinde states from his knowledge of the river (and he lives close to the Grand Rapids) that the first of September will not be a favourable time to examine the rapids; that there will at that season be too high a stage of water in the river; and that moreover he is compelled by indispensable business, to go to the State of Ohio and cannot be back by the first of September. I feel a very great reluctance, I assure you Sir, to do any thing that should have even the appearance of retarding in the slightest degree, the performance of the duties, imposed on us by our respective Legislatures, in relation to improving the Navigation of the Wabash.

But there is so little time now left between this and the first of Sept. to appoint another Commissioner and for him to repair to the place by that time, and fearing from the exceptively irregular and tardy movements of the mail that some further delay and disappointment may occur; and believing with Mr. Hinde that the labour could be done with more comfort to those employed and more advantageously to the Public at a later season of the year; and believing too that the examination and report can be made in time for the meeting of your Legislature, if the commissioners should meet on the last Monday of October, I respectfully propose to change the day of meeting from the first of Sept. to Monday the 27th. of October. If this change should

1. Thomas S. Hynde: born in Virginia, whence he emigrated to Kentucky, where he served in office of Superior Court for some time; 1806, went to Ohio and settled at Chilli-cothe; 1817, founded together with William McDowell and William Beauchamp, the town of Mount Carmel, Illinois; 1823, he was appointed commissioner on the navigation of the Wabash by Governor Coles; 1825, member of Wabash Navigation Company; 1846, died at Mount Carmel and was buried there; by profession Hynde was a Methodist minister, and was a contributor to periodical literature and the biographer of William Beauchamp.—Boggess, A., *Settlement of Illinois, 1778-1830*, Chicago Historical Society Collections, V.

be agreeable to you, you will please consider Th. S. Hinde as the commissioner on the part of this State, and that he will meet the commissioner on the part of Indiana at or near the Grand Rapids of the Wabash on the last Monday (the 27th) of October next. I regret exceedingly the necessity I feel myself under of changing the day which had been agreed on by us. I persuade myself you will do me the justice to believe that it has not grown out of any neglect or inattention on my part; and whilst I am consoled with the belief that no Public injury will result from it, I flatter myself with the hope that the change of time will not interfere with the private arrangements or convenience either of yourself or of Mr. Polke who I learn by your letter of the first of July you have appointed commissioner on the part of Indiana.

Yours with great Respect

EDWARD COLES

GOVERNOR HENDRICKS, Corydon, Indiana

Copy of a letter addressed to the Govrs. of the different states and our Sen. and Representatives in Congress.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

August 10, 1823

*Sir*—In pursuance of a request therein contained I have the honor to transmit you the above report and Resolutions and to assure you of my great respect.

EDWARD COLES

To the Governor of.....

Copy of a letter to John Q. Adams, Esq., Secretary of State of the U. States.

EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS, August 14, 1823

*Sir*—I have the honor to transmit you three copies of the Laws passed at the last session of the General Assembly of the State, one of which is intended for your office—the other two for the use of Congress, to whose Librarian, I must ask the favor of you, to have them delivered. I did not receive until the 22d of May last your letter dated Nov. 13, 1822, in which you notified

me of your having forwarded 110 copies of the laws passed at the first session of the 17th Congress. These laws have not ever yet been received but I presume they soon will, as I have been informed that there are now at St. Louis a considerable number of packages franked by you to the Govr. of this State.

I also received about the same time your letter of April 30th notifying me of your having transmitted *three* copies of the Journals of the Senate and House of Representatives, of the first session of the 17th Congress, only *one* copy of each have been received.

The State having had the misfortune to lose by fire in December last all the laws and documents previously received, if there should be in your office spare copies of the Digest of the laws of the U. S. and of the Journals of Congress and public documents you would confer a favor on this state by forwarding them to me.

I remain with great respect & esteem yours

EDWARD COLES

JOHN Q. ADAMS, Esqr., Secy. of State of the U. S.

Copy of a letter to Saml. Stevens, Jr., Governor of Maryland.

EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS, August 14, 1823

Sir—I have had the honor to receive your letter of May 5th (Post Marked July 4th) in which you request me to forward you the latest report of the Auditor or Treasurer, showing the financial situation of Illinois; a statement of the current annual expenditures; the sources from whence the revenues of the State are derived and the manner in which they are collected; and also the manner in which the Treasury Department is organised.

I had the Honor to forward you about two months since three copies of the laws passed at the last session of the General Assembly of this State, in which were contained Reports from the Auditor and Treasurer showing the Receipts and expenditures of the State during the years 1821 & 1822. From these Reports it will be seen, that the whole expenditure of the State for the civil list, incidental expenses, and special appropriations for the year 1821, amounted to \$33,024 and for the year 1822 to \$16,361. This inequality in the expenditure of the two years,

arises from the circumstance of the Legislature not holding but biennial Sessions. The aggregate expenditure therefore for the two years is \$49,386, and the mean average expenditure \$24,693 dollars. If we subtract however the Special appropriations, and the amount for repairs and furniture for the State House and to the Saline, we shall find the aggregate expenditure of the State Govt. to be \$38,570, and the mean annual expenditure \$19,285.

The Revenues of the State are derived from the rent of the Salines belonging to the State, and from the whole amount of the land tax paid by non residents, and one third of the amount of tax paid on lands owned by resident proprietors, the other two thirds being paid into County Treasuries for County purposes. The appropriation by Congress of 3,000,000 of acres of land in the state for Military Bounties, has greatly increased our non-resident list and for a time benefitted our Revenue, by making taxable much of the Govt. Lands, which would otherwise as its property, have remained exempt from taxation; but it will doubtless have an injurious effect in retarding the settlement of that part of the State in which it is situated. The lands of the State are divided into three Classes. Those of the first class are valued at 4 dollars per acre, those of the 2d at \$3, and those of the 3d at \$2 per acre, and the tax is one half per cent upon the amount of the valuation. The law leaves it with the owner to class his lands, and makes it his duty to give in a list, if he be a non resident, to the Auditor, if he be a resident proprietor, to the Treasurer of the County in which he resides; and requires the amount of tax to be paid on or before the first of Octr. by the former to the State Treasurer and by the latter to the sheriff of his County.

The State Treasurer is entitled to no percentage, but the sheriffs receive seven and one half per cent as a compensation for collection, and are required to pay annually by the first of January, into the State Treasury the amount of the tax due from their respective Counties.

The Treasury Department of the State is managed by an Auditor and Treasurer, the detail of whose duties can be fully seen by reference to their Reports and to the laws of Illinois, heretofore transmitted to the Executive of Maryland.



I shall be gratified by the receipt of the financial statements promised, and take pleasure in assuring you of my great respect.

EDWARD COLES

TO GOVERNOR SAM'L STEVENS, Jr., of Maryland

Copy of a letter to John Messenger<sup>1</sup>, R. K. McLaughlin<sup>2</sup> and Curtis Blakeman<sup>3</sup>.

EDWARDSVILLE, Aug't 21, 1823

*Gentlemen*—By reference to the Law of Congress, enabling the people of the Illinois Territory to form a Constitution and State Government, it will be seen, that the United States Stipulate to grant, in addition to the Township which has been previously granted for the same purpose thirty six sections or one entire Township of land for the use of a Seminary of learning; and by a reference to the Memorial address by the Legislature of Illinois at its late session, to the President of the United States, it will be further seen, that the Legislature express the opinion that the period has now arrived when the designation should be made, and give a decided preference, and express a desire, that

1. John Messenger: born 1771, in West Stockbridge, Massachusetts; 1783, went to Vermont; 1799, settled at Eddyville, Kentucky; 1802, moved to the American Bottom, Illinois, then to New Design; 1804, purchased mill on Rock House Creek, then moved to Clinton Hill, near Belleville; 1808, represented St. Clair County in General Assembly of Indiana Territory; June 22, 1809, commissioned surveyor of St. Clair County, by Governor Edwards; November 25–December 26, 1812, clerk of house of first territorial assembly of Illinois; December 24, 1814, appointed county treasurer of St. Clair County; 1818, represented St. Clair County in Constitutional Convention; 1818–20, Speaker of the House of Representatives in the General Assembly, in which he represented St. Clair County; 1821, published "A Manual or Hand-book intended for Convenience in Practical Surveying;" August 21, 1823, appointed commissioner to select seminary lands; 1846, died at Belleville.—James, *Territorial Records*; Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

2. Robert K. McLaughlin: Came to Illinois from Kentucky in 1815, and settled at Belleville; January 10, 1817, appointed clerk of Court of St. Clair County; January 13, 1818, reappointed clerk of St. Clair County Court, but resigned May 27, 1818; 1816–18, enrolling and engrossing clerk of House of Representatives in Third Territorial Assembly; 1819–23, state treasurer; August 21, 1823, appointed commissioner to select seminary lands; 1826–28, represented Fayette County in General Assembly; 1828–30, state senator; 1834, unsuccessful candidate for governor; 1836–38, state senator.—James, *Territorial Records*; Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, ed. 1887.

3. Curtis Blakeman: in 1819, came from the Northwest to Madison County and settled at "Marine Settlement;" 1822–26, represented Madison County in General Assembly; August 21, 1823, appointed a commissioner to select township for seminary of learning.—*Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois*.

the location be made in separate sections. The President has so far acceded to the request as to consent that the location may be made in tracts not less than two entire sections; and has thought proper to propose that the designation or location be made by or under my direction.

Being deeply impressed with the great importance of making judicious selections, and of making the most of this great fund, which is to enlighten our posterity to the latest generation, and thus greatly contributing to perpetuate, to the remotest period, blessings of civil and religious liberty, and being aware too of the great responsibility and peculiar delicacy attending the designation, from the circumstance of many respectable Citizens having removed to and made improvements on the Public Lands, I have thought the occasion required that at least three citizens should be selected for this trust, who should be distinguished for their judgment, probity, and independence. In selecting and deputing you, Gentlemen, to perform this delicate and responsible duty, I feel confident it will be done in a way the most satisfactory to the present and most beneficial to future generations; and I persuade myself you will feel the necessity of diligently exploring and making yourselves acquainted with the Country and that you will take into consideration all the various circumstances which can give permanent value to the Land; and that in deciding on your selections, you will be governed by no other considerations but such as are calculated to promote the Public good, and that you will bear in mind that you have the right to the *first* choice, and that your Country will expect you to make the *best* choice. Under these impressions I have selected and now depute you to examine the country, and make a selection of the Seminary lands, agreeably to the provisions of the law, above referred to, and to the instructions herein contained.

You will meet at Edwardsville on the twenty six day of August, and proceed from thence with all convenient dispatch, to examine the country which has been surveyed to the North of the lands which have been offered for sale, and to the East of the Military Bounty Lands, including the country which has been surveyed about Chicago and make a report to me of thirty six sections in tracts of not less than two entire sections. It is to be

understood however that the fractional sections, situated on the north and west of Townships or even on navigable Streams, may be selected, but in every such case they are to be considered as sections whether they contain more or less than 640 acres—but of course no section containing less than the full legal number of acres will be preferred, unless it be of such superior quality and value, as fully to counterbalance the deficiency of quantity. You will be at liberty to select tracts containing more, but in no case less than two sections to be connected by one or more corners, and to be composed of entire sections, and not parts of different sections. In making the selections you are to take into consideration, the fertility of the soil, the locality of the tracts as it respects navigable water courses, and tributary streams, possessing the advantages of water power, to propell Machinery; town sites, timber and prairie, the existence of Stone coal, good water &c &c. In one word every property and circumstance which will tend to give the lands an intrinsic and permanent value.

As you explore the country, I request that you will take minute notes descriptive of each tract which may strike you as possessing superior value. These notes will be of great assistance in promoting an union of opinion among you, and in guiding you to the most judicious selections, and may possibly be wanted by me.

To enable you the better to understand the country and to facilitate your labours, I have procured a map from the Surveyor's General's Office, which I herewith transmit to you. I regret it is not more extensive, & more perfect. It would have been desirable that the whole country should have been surveyed and you should have had a delineation of all the lands which have not been sold. I do not conceive it however very important to have it of the country very far in the interior, and at an inconvenient distance from Navigable rivers, as lands thus situated should not be preferred unless possessed of some uncommon local advantage. You will perceive from this map, that all the country situated near the Illinois river has either been surveyed, or the surveying has been contracted for and I have reasons to believe that nearly the whole of it will have been surveyed by the time you explore it. Wherever you find the sectional lines marked whether it is

delineated on the map or not, you can examine, and if it be thought proper designate tracts. But in addition to this, it is desirable that you should ascertain the General character of the Country which has not yet been surveyed and if you should be of opinion that there are any lands there of very superior value, you are directed to report the fact describing them in the best way you can, with a description of their extent, character, and the peculiar circumstances which give superior value to the Lands.

With respect to the remuneration to which you will be justly entitled for your labour and expense in performing the service herein assigned you, it may not be amiss here to repeat, what I have already communicated to you, that I shall claim for you from the Federal Government, a reasonable compensation, but if this should be refused, you will have to look to the justice and liberality of the General Assembly.

Wishing you a pleasant tour, I am very truly and sincerely your friend

EDWARD COLES

TO JOHN MESSENGER, R. K. McLAUGHLIN & CURTISS BLAKEMAN

Copy of a letter to I. V. N. Yates Esq., Secy. of the State of New York.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Sept. 4, 1823

*Sir*—Owing to the irregular and tardy movements of the mail, I had not the honor to receive until long after its date your letter of April 24th in which you request certain documents and information relative to the laws which have been adopted by this State for the relief of the poor, and of there [*sic*] practical operation and effect; together with a Report of a Committee of the Legislature of New York on the subject of the poor Laws, and a copy of your circular issued in pursuance thereof, to the local authorities of your State.

Being much gratified to see the truly patriotic and enlightened State of New York take into its serious consideration the

highly interesting question how unfortunate poverty can be best relieved with the least burden to prosperous industry; a subject of the greatest importance to the well being of Society, and one which calls in an especial manner for the paternal Authority of Govt., and whilst each feeling the Obligation imposed have strove to effect it, all have found it to be extremely difficult to adjust in a manner, which, whilst it extends relief to those who are really unfortunate, Shall not have a tendency to encourage indolence and operate as a tax on industry. And being much pleased with the wise and judicious course pursued by the Legislature of your State to procure information on this highly interesting subject, I cannot but regret that it is not in my power, in reply to your enquiries, to give that detailed information which is desired, and which, to have communicated, would have afforded me so much pleasure. But whilst I express my regret at this, I must be allowed to advert with thankfulness to the reason which prevents my complying with your request, which is no other than the fact that Illinois has no poor; at least so few that I have not been able to learn any thing about them, or to collect any facts relative to the operation of our poor laws, although I have made application to several of the oldest and most populous Counties in the State. The country being yet too new and thinly settled; labour too much in demand and too well rewarded; and the means of subsistence too abundant and too easily procured, and too liberally bestowed to the few who may require assistance, for any one to stand in need of public charity, unless extreme poverty should be connected with extreme old age or a great and permanent infirmity, which but seldom happens to such a degree as to render it necessary for the Overseer of the Poor to make legal provision for their support; and when it does happen the cases are too remote and isolated to afford opportunity to ascertain the operation and effect of our Poor laws, or the number, or annual expense of supporting paupers. Under such circumstances all that is left for me to do is to transmit you which I do inclose a copy of "an act for the relief of the Poor," which was passed soon after Illinois formed a State Govt. and was admitted into the Union, and to express

my regret at the circumstances which have so long delayed the communication and to tender you the assurance of my  
great Respect

EDWARD COLES

I. V. N. YATES Esq. Secy. of State of the State of New York,  
Albany

Copy of a letter to Thos. S. Hynde, Mount Carmel, Ill.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPT.

September 15, 1823

*Sir*—Having already apprised you of my intention to appoint you a commissioner, to examine the obstructions and report upon the best mode and probable expense, of improving the navigation of the Wabash in pursuance of the authority vested in me, by an act entitled, "an act relating to the navigation of the River Wabash" passed at the last Session of the General Assembly; and having now arranged and agreed with the Governor of Indiana on the preliminary Measures, it only remains for me to state what has been agreed upon, and more formally to authorize you to act in conjunction with the commissioner of Indiana. By reference to the acts passed by the Legislatures of Indiana and Illinois, in relation to the improvement, jointly by the two States, of the navigation of the Wabash, it will be seen that there is a perfect accordance in their several provisions except as to the extent of the examination authorized to be made. The latter authorizing the examination of the whole River, so far as it is the common boundary and property of both States; the former only for fifteen miles above and below the Grand Rapids. The Governor of Indiana not feeling himself justified in extending the examination further than he is expressly authorized by law, I have found myself constrained in order to effect the main object, to confine myself to that extent. You will therefore not consider yourself bound to make the examination further than to the extent authorized by the Law of Indiana. It has been agreed to appoint but one Commissioner on the part of each State, and that they shall meet at or near the Grand Rapids of the Wabash on Monday the 27th day of October

next. Governor Hendricks has notified me that he has appointed William Polke, as the Commissioner on the part of Indiana; and I have notified him that I have appointed you on the part of Illinois. You will therefore mutually accredit each other, and acting to-gether proceed with all convenient despatch to make the necessary examination and report your opinion as to the character and extent of the improvement it will be practicable or expedient to make and also estimates of the probable expense attending it. You will make out and sign a joint Report in duplicate one to be forwarded to me, the other to Govr. Hendricks who it is particularly desirable should receive it previous to the meeting of the Legislature of Indiana (the first Monday of December next.)

Not having seen or been particularly informed as to the nature and character of the obstructions to the navigation of the Grand and Minor Rapids of the Wabash, I cannot be expected to add minute instructions for the guidance of your conduct in performing the duties assigned you by the law under which you act. Nor do I deem it necessary, confiding as I do in your zeal for the improvement of the navigation of that River, and your good sense, judgment, and discrimination, as to the means best adapted to that end. I will only add in the way of suggestion, that circumstances may render it advisable for you to make calculations, and estimates, with an eye to our present and future means. If to perfect the navigation, by completely removing the obstructions, or by cutting a canal around them would require, in your opinion, a sum beyond our present means, it would be desirable that such estimates should be accompanied by others, founded on our probable ability at once, if not to perfect at least advantageously to improve the navigation of the River. Hoping that your labours may redound to your credit, and to the prosperity of your country, I am with all due respect yours

EDWARD COLES

To THOS. S HINDE Commissioner &c &c Mt. Carmel, Ill.

Copy of a letter to Lieut. Col. G. Bomford on ordnance duty Washington City.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

September 22d, 1823

*Sir*—I have received your letter of July 28th in which you inform me that an appointment of arms has been made among the several States and Territories, under the act of 1808 and enclosing me a statement showing the quota assigned to Illinois, and an account exhibiting the number of arms heretofore delivered, and the ballance remaining due and requesting me to give the necessary instructions to Lt. G. S. Drane the officer commanding the arsenal at Pittsburg who you inform me you have instructed to deliver upon my order the amount of the ballance of arms due this State and in such proportions of the several kinds, and at such place as I may designate. It was with no less surprise than concern that I heard from you that no returns of the Militia of the State of Illinois had been received for any of the years embraced in the apportionment except for the year 1818. I lost no time in asking of the Adjutant General of the State an explanation of this subject. An abstract from his reply is herewith transmitted. From which it appears that a return was certainly made for the year 1821; but in consequence of the destruction last winter by fire of the Books and papers of his Office, he is unable to say precisely what was the number of the Militia according to that Report or whether other returns were made previous to his coming into office. From the enumeration made of the inhabitants of this State in the years 1818 and 1820 and from my knowledge of the increase of population since, I am persuaded that the Adjutant Generals estimates of the Militia are short of the actual number in the different years stated.

As it is clearly unreasonable and unjust that Illinois should be made to suffer loss from the neglect or bad management of the Post Office Dept. which is under the control of the Federal Govt., it is hoped the apportionment of arms, which has been allotted to her, will be enlarged, and made more equitably to correspond with the number of her Militia; and I persuade myself that the



Govt. will not only be sensible of the justice of her claim, but of the policy in a national point of view, of affording her all the arms to which she is entitled, when it is recollected that from her local situation her Militia is liable to be called upon to defend the lower Mississippi Country, as well as the extensive Western and Northern frontier of the Union, which, by the by, is at this time menaced by powerful tribes of Savages. Believing that these considerations will induce the War Dept., if it has the power to afford this State the number of arms to which it is justly entitled; and finding too that if the State is to receive only the amount of arms as apportioned by you, the number is too Small to be received in the proportions stated, I have been induced to send enclosed herewith for your inspection my letter to Lieut. Drane, which you will be pleased to transmit to him with such instructions as you may think proper. You will see I request Lieut. Drane to furnish the State if in his power, with arms enough to arm a Company of Cavalry, and one of Riflemen.

These kinds of arms are wanted, but a less number of each than would be sufficient to arm a small Company would be useless. If you should have it in your power to add to the apportionment heretofore made, it would be agreeable to the State to receive the additional arms either in Rifles or Muskets as would be most convenient for the War Department to furnish.

I am with great Respect yours

EDWARD COLES

Lieut Col. G. BOMFORD on ordnance duty, Washington

Copy of a letter to Lieut. G. S. Drane at Pittsburg, Pennsylvania.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Sept. 22d, 1823

*Sir*—I have been informed by Col. Bomford on ordnance duty that the apportionment of arms under the act of 1808 among the Militia of the several states and Territories has been made, and that you have been instructed to deliver upon my order arms to the amount of the ballance due this State, and in such proportions of the several kinds and at such place, as I may designate;

and pursuance of his request that I would give you the necessary instructions, I have now to state, as the number of arms to which Illinois is entitled to receive under the apportionment is too small to admit of any proportion of the different kinds being made without rendering the whole useless I have proposed that, if it is agreeable to your orders, that you should deliver to this State one half the amount due in Pistols, Cavalry Sabres, and Belts and the other half in Rifles with the necessary accoutrements. This would enable me with the arms received to arm two small companies, one of Cavalry and the other of Riflemen. But if there should be any insurmountable difficulty in complying with this request, the State will have to Receive the whole amount of arms in Muskets.

You will be pleased to have the arms to which the State is entitled delivered at Shawneetown to Col. James Hall the Quarter Master General of Illinois, who will be authorized and instructed to give the necessary receipts on the delivery of the arms.

I am with all due respect

EDWARD COLES

To Lieut. G. S. DRANE Commeanding [*sic*] the Arsnal [*sic*] at  
Pittsburg, Pennsylvania

Copy of a letter to the Gov. of Missouri.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPT.

Sept. 26, 1823

*Sir*—I have received from the Attorney General of Illinois, a copy of an indictment, found by the Grand Jury, of the County of St. Clair in this State against Thomas C Rector, for the murder of Joshua Barton; and having been informed that the said Rector has fled to and is now in the State of Missouri, it becomes my duty to transmit you, which I do enclose, the said indictment duly authenticated and to demand of you the arrest and surrender of the said Thomas C. Rector agreeably to the provisions of an act of Congress entitled “an act respecting fugitives from justice and persons escaping from the service of their Masters,” approved February 12, 1793. As soon as I am notified of the

arrest of Rector, I will depute an agent to receive him and to pay the expenses attending the apprehending and securing of him.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

To the Governor of the State of Missouri, St. Charles

Copy of a letter to THOS. COX and PASCAL P. ENOS<sup>1</sup>, Springfield, Ill.

VANDALIA, Oct. 11, 1823

*Gentlemen*—I have been authorized by the Secretary of the Treasury, under the direction of the President of the U. S. to have selected the thirty six sections of land which by the provisions of the act enabling the people of the Illinois Territory to form a Constitution and State Govt., the United States stipulate to grant to Illinois for the use of a Seminary of learning; and have been directed by him to report to you the particular tracts which should be designated, in order that they may be reserved from sale. In consequence of the surveys not being yet completed, and the Gentlemen I deputed to explore the country and make the selections having been prevented by the high state of the water courses from examining all the country which has been surveyed, I have determined for the present to report to you only such tracts as has been advertised for sale on the first Monday of November next.

You will therefore be pleased to consider the following sections as selected, and reserve the same from sale, as a part of the 36 sections granted by the United States to the State of Illinois for the use of a Seminary of learning Vis, sections one, two, eleven, twelve & thirteen, in Township fifteen North of Range eleven West, sections one, thirty, thirty-two and thirty three in Town-

1. Pascal Paoli Enos: born 1770, at Windsor, Connecticut; 1794, graduated from Dartmouth College; 1804, member of Vermont Legislature; September 1815, married Salome Paddock at Woodstock, Vermont; 1815, removed to Cincinnati, Ohio; 1816, went to St. Charles, Missouri; 1817, moved to St. Louis; 1821, located in Madison County, six miles north of Edwardsville; January 28, 1823–January 28, 1827, appointed by President Monroe register of land office for district of Sangamon; 1823, moved to Springfield, which he, together with Major Elijah Iles, John Taylor and Thomas Cox laid out; January 28, 1827–January 28, 1831, receiver of public moneys for district of Springfield, appointed by President John Quincy Adams; April 1832, died at Springfield; in politics Enos was a Whig.

ship sixteen North of Range five West, and sections four & five, in Township sixteen North of Range six West of the third principal Meridian.

By acknowledging the receipt of this letter as soon as it is received you will confer a favour on your friend

EDWARD COLES

To THOS. COX Register & PASCAL P. ENOS Receiver of the land office at Sangamo, Springfield

Copy of a letter to Wm H Crawford, Secy. of the Treasury United States.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, Nov. 10th, 1823

*Sir*—The Gentlemen I deputed to examine the country and make the selection of 36 sections of Land for a Seminary of Learning, having been prevented by excessive rains and the high state of the water courses, from exploring the country to the extent desired and finding too that the surveyors had not yet completed their surveys of a valuable district of country I have determined to designate and report, for the present such tracts only as it is proposed to select in the District of Country which is advertised for sale during the present month. I accordingly on the 11th ulto. reported to the Land Office at Sangamo the following Tracts and requested that they should be reserved from sale as a part of the Land granted by the U. S. to this State for a Seminary of Learning viz: Sections One, two, eleven, twelve, and thirteen in Township fifteen North of Range eleven West, Sections one, thirty, thirty two, & thirty three in Township Sixteen North of Range Five West and Section four and five, in Township Sixteen North of Range Six West, of the third Principal Meridian.

As you require that the Tracts shall consist of at least two sections, it may be proper to remark that it is intended to select one or more sections to the North and adjoining section one in Township 16 N. of Range Six West.

You shall again hear from me on the subject as soon as I have selected the remainder of the Seminary Land, in the mean

time, I beg leave to renew to you the assurance of my great respect and sincere regard.

EDWARD COLES

W. H. CRAWFORD, Esq., Secretary of the Treasury of the United States

Copy of a letter to W. S. Hamilton, Esq<sup>1</sup>.

VANDALIA, January 24, 1824

*Sir*—It is probably known to you that persons were deputed last summer for the purpose of examining the country and selecting the 36 sections of land which the United States granted to the State for a Seminary of Learning and that a portion of the land thus selected has been reserved from sale, and has become agreeably to the provisions of the donations, the property of this State. Of this portion thus selected for the use of a Seminary of Learning, sections one, thirty, thirty two, and thirty three in Township sixteen North of Range Five West, and sections four, and five in Township sixteen North, of Range six West, are situated in the County of Sangamon. The object of this letter is to ask of you to act and to constitute you the agent of the State, in the County of Sangamo<sup>2</sup>, for the protection, security and preservation of these lands from all manner and kind of depredation whatever. If you think proper to undertake this trust, it will be expected that you pay more than ordinary attention, and exert great vigilance in protecting the land and appurtenances from every and the slightest injury. In a word that you will be as watchfull in guarding and protecting the interest of the state from all intrusions and depredations, as you would be were

1. William Stephen Hamilton: born August 4, 1797, in New York City; 1814–17, spent at West Point; 1817, came to Springfield, Illinois, as United States deputy surveyor of public lands; January 24, 1824, appointed protector of seminary lands in Sangamon County by Governor Coles; 1824–26, represented Sangamon County in General Assembly; 1825, aid-de-camp of Governor Coles who sent him forward to meet General Lafayette on his visit to Illinois; 1827, removed to Fever River Lead Mine Region; 1842–43, member of Wisconsin Territorial Legislature; 1849, emigrated to California; October 9, 1850, died at Sacramento, California; in politics Hamilton was a Whig.—Washburne, E. B., *Sketch of Edward Coles*, Chicago, 1882; Wisconsin Historical Collections, XII, 270.

2. The scribe writes sometimes Sangamo and sometimes Sangamon.

the lands your own property. If you will agree to undertake the trust, with this understanding, and will act faithfully up to it, you will greatly please and oblige me, and confer an obligation on the state.

I wish you, immediately on the receipt of this, to forwarn all persons under the penalties of the law, from depredating on the Seminary Lands; and to report to me if any person has done so, since they were reserved and have become the property of the state—and if so, who, and to what extent.

And I must also direct that you will henceforth immediately report to me every instance of depredation and by whom and to what extent committed.

Those persons who may have settled and made improvements on the Seminary Lands previous to their having been selected as such, may continue to reside on and cultivate them, until the pleasure of the Legislature shall be known; on condition that they are to commit no waste of any kind; and particularly that they are not to use the timber, stone, stone coal, or other valuable materials for any other than for the purposes of the farm, and even in that they are to be carefull not unnecessarily to destroy waste or injure them.

With respect to Compensation for your trouble in superintending the Seminary Lands, I can promise you nothing. It is probable at the next meeting of the Legislature permanent provision will be made for the general management and protection of these lands; and if the service rendered by you, in the mean time should then be deemed such as to entitle you to any remuneration, provision will doubtless be made for you.

To the Confidence reposed by this communication, I add, with pleasure, the assurances of my respect and esteem,

EDWARD COLES

To COL. W. S. HAMILTON Sangamo County

N. B. A similar letter to the above was written at the same time to Aaron Wilson as agent of the state for preserving the seminary Lands lying in Morgan County from depredations to wit: Sections one, two, eleven, twelve, and thirteen, in Township Fifteen North of Range eleven west.

Copy of a letter to Mathew Duncan, Esq<sup>1</sup>.

VANDALIA, Feby. 5, 1824

Sir—I recd by the last mail your letter dated Dec. 15, (but with the Postmark of Jany 23) in which you inform me that you, as one of a company, were anxious to lease the Muddy Saline and wish to know for what length of time and on what terms I should be willing to grant a lease to be paid in improvements made on the place. In reply I have to state, that I should be willing to lease the Muddy Saline for the term of three years free of rent; on condition that you would bind yourselves to dig or bore into the earth or rock to the depth of [at] least one hundred feet unless you should sooner find good salt water, as strongly impregnated with salt as the best salt water used at the Gallatin Saline and of a quantity sufficient to keep in constant operation 40 kettles of 40 gallons each; to wall up the well with durable materials to erect all the necessary buildings for the making of the salt, and the accommodations of the hands; to cut the timber regularly both big and little as well trunks as limbs; and to bind yourselves not to commit any waste, and to deliver in good Repair at the expiration of the lease, the premises with every thing on them except the metal which will be considered your property.

A violation of the above conditions; or an omission or neglect to labour on the improvements for a period of some three or four months to make void the lease.

If these or somewhat similar terms (for I should not object to vary them a little) should please you and the company, one of you had better come up and have the lease excuted at this place.

I am with all due respect

EDWARD COLES

TO MATHEW DUNCAN, Esq., Brownsville

1. Matthew Duncan: born 1790 in Paris, Bourbon County, Kentucky; 1814 removed to Kaskaskia where he founded "The Illinois Herald," the first newspaper published in Illinois; January 24, 1815, appointed justice of the peace of Randolph County by Governor Edwards; 1815, published first volume of "Pope's Digest;" January 26, 1816, appointed recorder of Randolph County; 1817, sold printing establishment and newspaper to Daniel P. Cook and Robert Blackwell; October 4, 1832, elected captain of a company of Illinois Rangers; 1833, appointed captain in first regiment of dragoons of the regular army; 1837, resigned commission and entered business at Shelbyville; January 16, 1844, died.—Snyder, John F., *Personal Letter*.

Copy of a letter Richd J. Hamilton<sup>1</sup>.

VANDALIA, March 19, 1824

*Dr. Sir*—About the first of Feby. I received a communication from Mathew Duncan, in which he expressed a wish to lease the Muddy Saline, and requested to be informed on what terms I would lease it, to be paid for in improvments. I immediately complied with his request by stating the length of time and conditions on which I would lease it. Since then I have not heard from him.

About a month since I received an application from John Hammon, of your town, to cultivate a field on the Saline tract. To this I have made no reply in consequence of my being in daily expectation of hearing from Mr. Duncan.

Feeling myself under the necessity of troubling some friend, and knowing of none in the vicinity in which I have more confidence, or who I believe would more cheerfully render a service to the State than yourself, I am induced to ask the favour of you to ascertain whether Mr. Duncan intends leasing the Saline; and if he should not, to rent for the season the field to Mr. Hammon, or some other person to be paid in improvements to be made on the place, or for such other consideration as you may think most advantageous for the state.

You would also render an acceptable service to the State, as well as confer a favour on me, by undertaking the Genl. Superintendence of the Saline until it is rented.

If you will consent to undertake this, for which by the way I can promise you no compensation, I must request you to forwarn all persons from depredating upon the Saline or its appur-

1. Richard Jones Hamilton: born August 21, 1799, near Danville, Kentucky; 1820, moved to Jonesboro, Illinois; 1821, appointed cashier of state bank at Brownsville; 1822, married Diana W. Buckner of Jefferson County, Kentucky; March 19, 1824, appointed general superintendent of Muddy Saline; January 14, 1826, appointed justice of the peace for Jackson County; March 31, 1827, admitted to the bar; January 29, 1831, elected first probate judge of Chicago; 1831-41, clerk of Circuit Court; 1832-37, clerk of Cook County Commissioners Court; March 25, 1835, married Harriette L. Hubbard at Chicago; 1835-37, recorder of deeds for Cook County; 1835, ceased to be probate judge; 1840, alderman of Sixth Ward; 1843, married Mrs. Priscilla P. Tuley; 1847, unsuccessful candidate for colonelcy of the Fifth Regiment for the Mexican War; 1849-52, alderman; 1852, presidential elector; 1856, unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant-governor; December 26, 1860, died; in politics he was a Democrat.—Andreas, G. A. T., *History of Cook County*, Chicago, 1884.



tenances, and notify me of any depredation by whom, and to what extent committed.

I wish you as soon as it may be convenient to mention the substance of this letter to Mr. Hammon, and particularly to explain why I have not given him a more speedy answer to his application, and to be assured of my great respect and sincere regard.

EDWARD COLES

TO RICHD. J. HAMILTON, Esq., Brownsville

Copy of a letter to Col. Wm. S. Hamilton.

VANDALIA, March 19, 1824

*Dr. Sir*—Your letter of the 29th. ulto. has been recd. in which you request to be informed whether persons will be permitted to make new improvements on, or lease the seminary Lands, or be allowed to remove from them the fallen timber. Not having anticipated in Sangamo where there was so much public and unappropriated Land, that any person would have been desirous of making new improvements on such tracts as had been selected for the use of a seminary of Learning; or that any improvements heretofore made which was worth any thing, would have been abandoned, I gave no instructions on these points in my letter of the 24th January last.

As I have no authority to lease or make any disposition of the Seminary Lands beyond the meeting of the Legislature, I could hold out no sufficient inducement for any person to make improvements; and even if I could, I do not feel myself at liberty to do so.

With respect to any improvement which may have been heretofore made, and now abandoned and given up to the state (if any such there be) you are at liberty to rent it on such terms as you may think best for the state provided the lease does not extend beyond the meeting of the Legislature, and the party stipulates not to commit waste &c &c.

No timber or other thing must be removed from the Land.

I am with great respect your friend

EDWD. COLES

TO COL. W. S. HAMILTON, Sangamo County

VANDALIA, June 10, 1824

*Sir*—On the 24th January I wrote you and transmitted by mail the annexed letter. Since then I have not heard from you. Mr. Rockwell informed me when he was here sometime since, that he believed you accepted the trust but feeling it to be a duty I owe the State to have more direct and positive information that you had entered on its duties and that some one was attending to prevent persons from depredating on the seminary lands, I am induced again to address you and to transmit you a copy of my letter of Jany. 24.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

AARON WILLSON, Esq., Morgan County

VANDALIA, June 10, 1824

*Sir*—On the 19th March I wrote you the annexed letter and transmitted it by mail. Not having since heard from you, and fearing my letter may have miscarried, and that the public interest may be suffering for the want of some one to look after and guard it, I am induced to address you and forward you a copy of my letter of March 19.

I am Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

RICHD. J. HAMILTON, Esq., Brownsville

Copy of a letter to Geor. Graham Esq.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

July 18, 1824

*Sir*—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 14 April, enclosing me, by the direction of the President, a memorial addressed to him by certain citizens, residing in Sangamo County praying that some other section of land may be selected in lieu of section 33, in Township 16 North of Range 5 West, which has been selected, by me, in pursuance of authority given by the President, and reported to the Secretary of the Treasury, as a part of the Township of land granted by the United States to this

State for the use of a Seminary of Learning. I request you to make known to the President, that I will give due attention to the consideration set forth in the Memorial, and after a thorough examination of the whole subject, will most cheerfully avail my-self of the permission, which he has been pleased to grant to change the location, provided I become satisfied that the wishes of the memorialists can be gratified without a sacrifice of the public interest.

The Treasury Department has been informed, through letters addressed by me to the Secretary, that in consequence of the surveys which were then progressing, but not completed, of a considerable portion of the country bordering on the Illinois River, and of the excessive rains which rendred the streams impassable, the persons deputed by me last year to examine the country and make the selection of the Seminary Lands had been prevented from performing the duty assigned them; and that in consequence of this I had selected and reported to the Secretary of the Treasury, and to the Land Office at Sangamo, only such sections as it had been decided should be selected, in the tract of country advertised for sale in the month of November last. Wishing to give time to complete the survey, and to procure a map of them; and not deeming it necessary that the selection should be immediately made, especially as it was not probable the land would be offered for sale for some months, I had no further examination made of the country last autumn; and since the cold of the winter, and the floods of the spring and summer, have induced me to delay it; and as excessive rains still continue almost daily to fall, and as the flies, heat, and exuberance of vegetation will render it very difficult and extremely disagreeable to explore the country before the month of October, I do not propose, until about that time, to make further examination of the country, and to complete the selection of the Seminary Lands.

Last year instructions were given to the Register and Receiver of Sangamo to reserve from sale such lands as I should designate for the use of a Seminary of Learning. I beg leave to suggest the propriety of your renewing these instructions for the sale which I see from the last newspapers is advertised to com-

mence on the third Monday of November next, as it is not probable for the reasons above stated, the selection will be completed sooner than October or November next.

I am very Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

GEOR. GRAHAM Esq. Commissioner of the Genl. Land Office  
Washington

Copy of a letter to Joseph Yates Govr. of New York.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

July 20, 1824

*Sir*—Feeling very solicitous, as a citizen of Illinois, that her Salines several of which are the most valuable in the Western Country should be managed in a manner most advantageous to her interest; and as her Chief Magistrate, a peculiar & sacred obligation to contribute as far as it may be in my power to this desirable & important object; and having been led to believe, from information received, that New York has adopted many beneficial provisions & valuable improvements in the leasing & general management of her Salines; I am induced to ask the favor of you for such information on this subject as it may be in your power to afford.

I am particularly desirous in the first place to receive, as soon as it may suit your convenience, a copy of the laws prescribing the terms of the leases, & the rules & regulations of the Salines; & also the duration, stipulations & considerations of the leases, & the amount of revenue derived from the Salines.

And in the next place I should be gratified to be informed of the depth at which salt water is obtained; the character of the earth or rock perforated, & the expense attending it; the strength of the strongest & weakest water used in the manufacture of salt; the kinds of fuel employed & the cost of each, the price paid for labour, the annual quantity of salt manufactured, & the average value of it &c &c.

Persuading myself that there is no necessity for an apology from one of the youngest States for seeking knowledge & experience on a highly interesting subject, from one of the oldest &

most enlightened sisters of the confederation, I shall conclude by assuring you of my great respect

EDWARD COLES

JOSEPH YATES Esq. Governor of New York, Albany

Copy of a letter to Gov. T. Morrow of Ohio.

EDWARDSVILLE, ILLINOIS

Aug. 25, 1824

*Dear Sir*—Among our politicians there are many schemes talked of for rendering the 16th Sections & the Seminary Lands speedily productive, some of which I deem, not only very wild & fallacious, but in violation of the true intent of the Grants, & highly detrimental to the permanent interest of the community.

Thinking it probable Ohio, from its being the oldest & most densely populated of the Sectionized States, has before this devised measures for rendering the school lands productive, I am induced to ask the favor of you to inform me what she has done in relation to this subject, and knowing the opportunities you have had of becoming acquainted with this subject in all its bearings, & the great attention you have paid for many years past, & your intimate knowledge of every thing connected with the public lands, I am further induced to take the liberty to ask, if you should not think it would give you too much trouble, for your individual opinion of the best disposition which can be made of the school lands so as to bring them most speedily & beneficially to yield a revenue for the beneficent purpose for which they were granted.

I gladly avail myself of this occasion to renew to you the assurance of my great respect & sincere regard.

EDWARD COLES

P. S. Will you be so good as to add to the obligation I shall feel myself under for an answer to the foregoing letter by informing me how Ohio works her Salines. Does she lease them for a specified amount to be paid in money or salt, or does she require the lessee to pay (as in New York) so much for each bushel of salt manufactured?

Gov. MORROW, Columbus Ohio

Copy of a letter to Genl. W. Hargrave Superintendent of the Gallatin County Saline.

VANDALIA, Aug. 31, 1824

Sir—I am desirous of obtaining information from you, as soon as it can be furnished, on the following points:

1st. How many acres of land have been granted by the U. S. to this State for the use of the Gallatin Saline, & how is the tract designated & what are its boundaries? From how many acres of this tract has the timber been cut off for fuel; & has it in every instance been uniformly cut, big & little, trunks & branches; or has the forest been any where irregularly & wastefully cut, & the best timber only culled for fuel or other purposes?

2d. Who are the present leses [*sic*]? Do they pay their rent punctually? What is the amount paid by each; & when do their leases expire?

3d. At what depth is the rock from the surface? What is the kind & character of the rock; & the expense of perforating it per foot?

4th. What are the shallowest & deepest wells from which water is obtained for the manufacture of salt? What is the strength of the weakest & strongest of the salt used?

5th. How much salt is annually manufactured; & at what price is it sold?

6th. How many labourers are employed? of which how many are freemen, & how many are slaves? and what is the amount & kind of wages paid to each description of labour?

7th. What kinds of fuel are used; & the relative value of each? You will be pleased to give speedily a full & detailed answer to these enquires, & to accept the assurances of my respect.

EDWARD COLES

Copy of a Letter to Thomas Cox, Register & Pascal P. Enos, Receiver in the Land office at Springfield.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, Oct. 30, 1824

Gentlemen—The commissioner of the General Land office informed me, some time since, that he had instructed you to reserve

from sale such lands as I should report to you as having been selected for the use of a seminary of learning.

I have now to report to you that I have selected for the use of a Seminary, Sections thirty (30) & thirty one (31) in Township seventeen North of range four West: Sections twenty five (25) & thirty six (36) in Township seventeen North of range five West; & Sections eighteen (18) nineteen (19) twenty nine (29) thirty (30) thirty one (31) & thirty two (32) in Township seventeen North of range six West.

Several of the citizens of Springfield having sent on to the President of the U. S. a remonstrance against the selection for seminary purposes of section thirty three (33) in Township sixteen north of range five west; & the President having been pleased to forward me the said remonstrance, & authorised me if I should deem it expedient to change the location, I have determined to do so, believing that other land equally good can be selected for the Seminary, & feeling, too, disposed to comply with every reasonable wish of the people. You will therefore not consider the above described section as one of those selected & reserved for the use of a Seminary of learning.

By acknowledging the receipt of this letter, as soon as received, you will confer a favor on

EDWARD COLES

Copy to D. P. Cook Esq. Member of Congress for Illinois.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Dec. 9, 1824

*Sir*—I have been requested to transmit to you, which I do enclosed, a memorial from the General Assembly of this state to the Congress of the U. S. asking assistance in the opening a navigable communication between Lake Michigan & the Illinois River. I am with due respect

EDWARD COLES

The same memorial was transmitted in a similar letter to Mess. McLean & Thomas.

Copy to the Clerk of the County of Greene.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, Dec. 9, 1824

*Sir*—A Writ was issued on the 10 of September for the Election of a Sheriff in the County of Greene.

As no returns have been received I am directed by the Governor to inform you thereof & to enquire the cause of the omission. I am &c

M BIRKBECK<sup>1</sup>

Copy to Genl. LaFayette<sup>2</sup>.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 9, 1824

*Dr. Sir*—I have not been called to the discharge of an official duty which has afforded me a gratification to be compared with

1. Morris Birkbeck: born 1762 or 1763 in Wanborough, England; received a classical education and became a successful practical farmer; traveled in France and wrote "Notes on a Journey through France," 1815; through the influence of Edward Coles, particularly, he emigrated to English Prairie, Edwards County, Illinois, in 1817. His interest in this Illinois settlement led to the publication of "Notes on a Journey through America," 1818, and "Letters from Illinois." These pamphlets and his colonizing enterprise resulted in a heated controversy, for the literature of which see Smith, C. W., "Writings of Morris Birkbeck," in *Transactions of Illinois State Hist. Soc.*, 1904, p. 169. Birkbeck was one of the leaders in the anti-slavery fight of 1824, at which time he wrote many letters in the newspapers. Appointed secretary of state by Governor Coles, but failed to be confirmed by the legislature; 1825, died.—Thwaites, R. G., *Early West, Travels*, X., XI.; Flower, George, *History of the English Settlement*, Chicago Hist. Soc. *Collections*, I.; Harris, N. D., *History of Negro Slavery in Illinois*, 1904.

2. Lafayette's visit to Illinois: on November 24, 1824, the House and Senate of the General Assembly of Illinois adopted a resolution "that a joint committee of both houses be appointed whose duty it shall be to address General Lafayette expressive of the feelings of the people of the state of Illinois." This committee, consisting of William S. Hamilton, Risdon Moore, Jr. and Conrad Will, on the part of the House, and Theophilus W. Smith and Raphael Widen, on the part of the Senate, wrote an address inviting Lafayette to visit the state. To this Governor Coles added his solicitations as a personal friend. In response to these invitations, Marquis de Lafayette visited Illinois in the spring of 1825. Attended by a large delegation he came from St. Louis to Kaskaskia, where he was welcomed by Governor Coles, the judge of the Supreme Court, members of the Legislature, and many citizens. After the governor had delivered his address of welcome and the general had responded, a large reception was held at the residence of General John Edgar, followed by a banquet at the tavern of Colonel Sweet. The festivities closed with a ball at the home of William Morrison. General Lafayette was then escorted to Vandalia, and from there to Shawneetown, where the party embarked for Nashville on a boat chartered by the state. On his return from Tennessee, Lafayette again stopped at Shawneetown, where he was welcomed by Judge James Hall. From there Lafayette went east, accompanied by Governor Coles.—Reynolds, John, *My Own Times*, Illinois, 1855.



that I now experience in transmitting to you the enclosed testimonial of gratitude & affection from the Representatives of my fellow citizens of Illinois. To say that I write most cordially in this, & in every expression of esteem & veneration with which you have been greeted, from one extreme to the other of our widely extended Republic, is to say merely what is said & felt by every American. But I must be allowed to add, that the personal acquaintance I formed with you while in France in the year 1817, by making your private & social virtues better known to me has increased my personal attachment & the gratification I experience in addressing you on this occasion.

It is with an interest I can not describe that I have read in the public prints of the affectionate & enthusiastic manner in which you have been received & welcomed every where in a country which owes so much of its liberty & happiness to your exertions; & of your visits after the expiration of half a century, to scenes so peculiarly interesting, & where you had performed so distinguished a part; & the joy you must have experienced in beholding the fruits of your labour in the unexampled prosperity of our country & the liberty & happiness of its citizens; who, in the full enjoyment of all the blessings of self Government, rejoice in the occasion which your presence affords of doing honor to their noble & most disinterested friend—the friend of their country in her deepest adversity.

If you should visit the Western States, you would derive a pleasure from witnessing the rapid improvements made by these children of the Revolutionary contest, & of that liberal & happy system of Government which emanated from it. It would be exceedingly gratifying to the Citizens of Illinois to be so honored. We should not be able to receive you in large & splendid cities, nor accommodate you in spacious mansions; but we flatter ourselves with the belief that you would be gratified in seeing our beautiful country, & would enjoy a parental interest in the promising prospects of our infant state. To this I will only add, if you should visit us, I can furnish you a cordial welcome from gratified hearts; & none more so than your sincere & devoted friend

EDWARD COLES.

GENL. LA FAYETTE

## STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 16, 1824

To G. GRAHAM Esq. Commissioner of the General Land Office  
Washington.

*Sir*—On the 18 of July I informed you of the reason which had prevented me from having selected all the sections of the Seminary Lands, & of my intention to have it done during the past autumn. A severe illness prevented me from taking the necessary steps to complete the selection & I was only enabled to locate such tracts as it was deemed proper to select in the tract offered for sale at Springfield in Nov. previous to which sale I gave notice to the Land offices of the ten tracts which I had selected; & also that I had yielded to the solicitations of the citizens who had memorialised the President & had availed myself of the permission given by him, in your letter of April 14, 1824, to relinquish & give back to the U. S. the tract stated in the memorial, vis: Section 33 in Township 16 North of Range 5 West.

As it will tend to elucidate & show what has been done I will add a list of the Sections which have been selected & are now held as a part of the 36 sections which were granted by Congress to this State for the use of a Seminary of Learning.

Sections	Township	Range
1. 2. 11. 12. 13.	15. N.	11. W.
1. 30. 32.	16. N.	5. W.
4. 5.	16. N.	6. W.
30. 31.	17. N.	4. W.
25. 36.	17. N.	5. W.
18. 19. 29. 30. 31. 32.	17. N.	6. W. of 3d pr. Meridian

The remaining sixteen Sections will be reported to you as soon as they are selected.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

G. GRAHAM Esqr.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Dec. 30, 1824

To DANL. P. COOK Esq. Member of Congress, Washington.

*Sir*—By request I transmit you a Memorial addressed by the General Assembly of this State to the Congress of the U. S. praying that the present terms relating to the sale of public lands may be so modified as to authorise the sale of all lands that have been offered for sale five years or more at fifty cents per acre.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

DANL. P. COOK Esq.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Dec. 30, 1824

To J. B. THOMAS & JOHN McLEAN Esqes. Members of the Senate  
Washington

*Gentlemen*—By request I transmit you a Memorial addressed by the General Assembly of this State to the Congress of the U. S. praying that the present terms relating to the sale of Public Lands may be so modified as to authorise the sale of all lands which may have been offered for sale five years or more at fifty cents per acre.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

To J. B. THOMAS & J. Mc LEAN Esqes.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 13, 1825

DANL. P. COOK Esq. Member of Congress from Illinois.

*Sir*—In compliance with the request of the Committee of Enrolment I transmit to you a preamble & resolution passed by the General Assembly of this State, requesting its representatives in both houses of Congress to use their exertions to prevail on the Federal Government to take steps to conciliate the hostility which exists between the Camanchee & other neighboring

Indians; and to encourage & protect our intercourse & trade with them.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

DANL. P. COOK Esq.

Similar Communications were made at the same time to John McLean Esq. & J. B. Thomas Esq. Members of the Senate of the U. S.

Copy of a letter to James Monroe President of the U. S.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 20th, 1825

*Dr Sir*—In the compliance with the request of the Legislature of this State I have the honor to transmit you a copy of the "Report of the Canal Commissioners of the State of Illinois,"<sup>1</sup> together with a map of the country between the head waters of the Illinois river and Lake Michigan, on which is delineated the proposed canal to connect their navigable waters, and to renew the assurances of my great respect and sincere regard

EDWARD COWLES [*sic*]

JAMES MONROE President of the U. S. Washington

1. Illinois-Michigan Canal: The subject of the Illinois-Michigan Canal was first presented to Congress in 1808 by Secretary of State Albert Gallatin. From that time on it was a matter of frequent discussion, and, in 1816, a treaty was made with the Indians by which a tract of land ten miles wide along the proposed route of the canal from Lake Michigan to the Illinois River was ceded to the United States. In 1818, Nathaniel Pope in his plea for the present northern boundary of the state, reiterated the advantages of such a canal. Three years later the Illinois Representatives in Congress laid before that body a survey of the proposed route of the canal and a request from the Illinois Legislature for financial aid. As a result, Congress on March 30, 1822, authorized the building of the canal through the public lands, and vested ninety feet of land on each side of the canal in the state. The following year the General Assembly secured an estimate of the probable expense of the undertaking. It amounted to six or seven hundred thousand dollars. The next step was the incorporation of the Illinois and Michigan Canal Association with a capital of one million dollars, in the year 1825. D. P. Cook, who feared that the forming of a private corporation would kill the Congressional land grant, urged the repeal of the corporation act, and as no stock had been taken, it was done, the following session. March 2. 1827, Congress granted to Illinois the alternate sections of public land, on both sides of the canal, for five miles in width its entire length, or about 224,322 acres. In the next few years the interest in the canal seemed to decline, and from 1831 to 1835 an effort was made to abandon the construction of a canal for that of a railroad. Indicative of this movement was the abolishment of the board of canal commissioners by the Legislature in 1833, with no provision for carrying forward the work. However, in the end the canal was successful, and in 1835 a

Copy of a letter to D. P. Cook Esq.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 20th, 1825

*Sir*—In compliance with the request of the Legislature, I transmit you a copy of the "Report of the canal commissioners of the State of Illinois." It may be well for me to add that I have forwarded by this days mail to the President of the United States a copy of the Report together with a *map* of the country through which it is proposed to cut the canal, and on which the canal is delineated, a loan of which I presume you can obtain from the President if desired. I would cheerfully have forwarded to you a map also, but have been unable to procure a copy .

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COWLES

D. P. COOK Esq. Member of Congress from Illinois, Washington

A similar letter was this day written and transmitted to Messrs Thomas & McLean Senators in Congress.

Copy of a letter to Wm. Hendricks Govr. of Indiana.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Janr. 20th, 1825

*Sir*—In compliance with the direction of the Legislature of this State I transmit you a certified copy of an act entitled "An act to incorporate the Wabash Navigation Company" and request that it may be laid before the Legislature of Indiana.

I am very respectfully yours

EDWARD COWLES

WM. HENDRICKS Gov. of Indiana, Indianopolis

loan was authorized. On July 4, 1836, the first ground was broken. But the construction went very slowly and in 1841 was suspended. It was resumed in 1846, and in April 1848, the channel was open for navigation. At that time the total outlay had been \$6,170,226. By August 1871, the state had liquidated the entire indebtedness on the canal, and the latter reverted to the state, together with a surplus of \$925.45.

The canal begins at the South Branch of the Chicago River about five miles from the lake. It flows some eight miles to the valley of the Desplaines, following the valley to the mouth of the Kankakee, thence to the southwestern terminus at LaSalle, at the head of the navigation of the Illinois River. Between these points the canal has five feeders, the Calumet, the Desplaines, the Du Page, the Kankakee and the Fox. The canal is ninety-six feet long, and the aggregate length of the five feeders is twenty-five miles. It is forty feet wide, four feet deep, with four aqueducts, seven dams and seventeen locks, with a pumping station at Bridgeport.—Jones, A. J., "The Chicago Drainage Canal and its Forebear, the Ill. and Mich. Canal, *Transactions of Ill. State Hist. Society.* 1906, p. 153.

Copy of a letter to the Comr. of the Genl. Land Office, Washington.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

March 10, 1825

*Sir*—The Legislature, at its late Session, having made provision for investing the amount of the school fund, derived from the proceeds of the sales of the public Lands, which this State may from time to time be entitled to receive from the Federal Government, it becomes my duty to enquire of you the Amount of this fund now due, and to request that the Receiver of Public moneys at Edwardsville, or at some other Land Office convenient to this place, may be authorized and instructed to pay it over to the State. To this I will only add that the interests of the State, as well as the injunctions of the Legislature, induce me to ask your immediate attention to this subject.

I am very respectfully

EDWARDS COLES

The Commissioner of the Genl Land Office, Washington

Copy of a letter to Richd. J. Hamilton cashier of the branch Bank located at Brownsville.

KASKASKIA, April 1, 1825

*Dr Sir*—You are of course aware that by a late act of the General Assembly you are required to enter into a new Bond for the faithful discharge of your duties as Cashier on or before (I believe) the first of May. Feeling that I shall be at a loss in deciding on the character of the security, which will be tendered by Gentlemen who reside at a distance from me, I have thought it advisable to obtain, if possible the opinion of some disinterested and responsible person whose nearer residence, and superior knowledge of the circumstances of individuals, will enable him to judge more correctly of the sufficiency of the security tendered. For this purpose I have to request that you will present the Bond you are required soon to enter into to Mr. Breese<sup>1</sup>, the circuit Attorney for your Judicial circuit. If he

1. Sidney Breese: born July 15, 1800, at Whitesboro, New York; 1814, entered Hamilton College; 1816, transferred to Union College; 1818, graduated from Union College; December 24, 1818, arrived at Kaskaskia; 1819-39, first official reporter of the Supreme

deems the security sufficient, he will forward the bond to me at Vandalia; if on the other hand he should think it not equal to the sum required he will return it to you for additional security.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

RICHD. J. HAMILTON Esq. Cashier of the Branch of the State Bank of Illinois located at Brownsville

Copy of a letter to S. Breese Esq.

KASKASKIA, April 1, 1825

*Dr Sir*—You will recollect my having spoken to you some short time since at St. Louis, about the embarrassment I was sensible I should feel in passing on the new Bonds, which it was made the duty of cashiers to enter into for the faithful discharge of their duties, in consequence of my ignorance of the pecuniary circumstances of individuals living so far from me as many of the branches were situated. On that occasion you expressed your willingness to examine the Bond of the Cashier at Brownsville, & give your opinion of the sufficiency of the security tendered. I have now to request that you will receive from Mr. Hamilton his Bond, and if the security he offers be good and sufficient to forward it to me if it should not however be sufficient, that you return it to him & require that he give you such additional security as shall in your opinion be fully equal to the amount which

Court of Illinois; 1820, admitted to the bar; 1821, postmaster at Kaskaskia; 1822–26, circuit attorney for Third Judicial Circuit; September 4, 1823, married Eliza Morrison at Kaskaskia; 1827–29, appointed United States district attorney for Illinois by President Adams; 1831, published "Reports of the Decisions of the Supreme Court of Illinois, 1818–31;" 1832, served as lieutenant-colonel of the Third Regiment, Third Brigade, of Volunteers; January 14, 1835–February 10, 1841, judge of the Second Circuit; November 1835, moved from Kaskaskia to Carlyle; February 15, 1841–December 19, 1842, justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois; March 4, 1843–March 3, 1849, United States senator; 1850–52, represented Clinton County in General Assembly in which he served as speaker in the House; June 22, 1855–March 1, 1858, judge of the Second Circuit; November 23, 1857–June 28, 1858, chief justice of Supreme Court of Illinois; July 6, 1861–June 28, 1878, justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois; June 28, 1878, died at Pinckneyville; in politics Breese was a Democrat.—Moses, John, *Illinois Historical and Statistical*, Chicago, 1892; Fuller, Melville, W., *Biographical Memoir of Sidney Breese*, in *Early History of Illinois*, by Sidney Breese. Chicago, 1884.

he is required to give. I have written to Mr. Hamilton on the subject. By giving it your attention  
you will Oblige yours

EDWARD COLES

S. BREESE Esq. Circuit Attorney for the 3d Judicial Circuit,  
Kaskaskia

Copy of a letter to Edmond Mundy.

VANDALIA, April 7, 1825

*Dr. Sir*—It is of course known to you that by a law passed at the last session of the General Assembly it is made your duty on or before the first day of May, to enter into Bond, with security satisfactory to the Governor, in a sum not less than \$30,000, Conditioned for your good behaviour, and the faithful discharge of the duties of Cashier. Foreseeing that I should be embarrassed in passing on Bonds tendered by Cashiers residing in districts of country in which I am but partially acquainted with the pecuniary circumstances of many of the individuals who will be tendered as security, I have thought it advisable to have the opinion of some disinterested and responsible person, who possessed the requisite local knowledge to enable him to judge correctly, and have accordingly determined to call on the Circuit Attorneys to whom I have addressed letters on this subject. I must therefore request that you will hand your Bond to General Robinson the Circuit Attorney of your Judicial Circuit. If the security should be deemed by him sufficient, I have requested him to forward the Bond to me; and on the other hand if he should think it insufficient to return it to you to procure additional security.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

EDMOND MUNDY Esq. Cashier of the branch of the State Bank at  
Palmyra

Note.—A similar letter to the above was at the same time addressed to the Cashier of Branch of the State Bank at Shawneetown.



Copy of a letter to J. M. Robinson<sup>1</sup>.

VANDALIA, April 7, 1825

*Dr. Sir*—By a late law it is made the duty of the Cashiers of the Branches of the State Bank of Illinois on or before the first of May, to give each a Bond payable to the people of the State with security satisfactory to the Governor, in a sum not less than \$30,000, conditioned for his good behavior and the faithful discharge of the duties of his office. Foreseeing that I must be ignorant of the pecuniary circumstances of many of the individuals who will be offered as security, from the distance at which I reside from them, I have thought it advisable to have the opinion of some responsible person, who from his locality would or could possess the requisite knowledge to enable him correctly to estimate the security offered. No one has occurred to me so proper in every respect to render this service as the Circuit Attorneys. I have therefore to request that you will examine the Bond which the Cashier of the Branch Bank at Palmyra may give, and if you think the security tendered fully equal to \$30,000 the amount the law requires he should give, you will transmit the Bond to me if on the other hand you should not deem it sufficient, you are to return it to him, and require that he give additional security. I have written to the Cashier on this subject.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

GENL. J. M. ROBINSON Circuit Attorney for the 5th Judicial Circuit, Carmi

Note.—A similar letter to the above was at the same time addressed to the Circuit Attorney of the 4th Judicial Circuit.

Copy of a letter to Alexander Miller.

VANDALIA, April 7, 1825

*Dr. Sir*—Agreeably to the suggestion I made in the conversation held with you some time since, that it was probable I

1. John M. Robinson: born 1793, in Kentucky; in early life moved to Carmi, Illinois; 1825, circuit attorney for Fifth Judicial Circuit; 1830-41, United States senator; March 6, 1843-April 27, 1843, justice of Supreme Court of Illinois; April 27, 1843, died at Ottawa; in politics Robinson was a Democrat.—*Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois*.

should have occasion for your services at Shawneetown, I have now to authorize and empower you to proceed thence and examine the branch of the State Bank there, and to make to me a report of its situation on or before the first of May. Accompanying this letter I transmit you a volume of the laws just printed, in which is contained the resolution passed at the last session of the General Assembly authorizing the Governor to appoint a competent person to examine the Branch Bank at Shawneetown, and in pursuance of which you are appointed; and enclosed is a letter addressed to Mr. Jones, the Cashier of that Bank, notifying him of the power with which you are invested, and requiring him to exhibit to you all the Books, papers money &c &c appertaining to the Bank and to afford you every explanation and facility to a full and satisfactory examination and a thorough understanding of its actual situation. I also forward you enclosed, and request that you will deliver them, a letter to Mr. Eddy, the Circuit Attorney and another to Mr. Jones, the Cashier in relation to the Bond which the latter is required to give on or before the first of May, as will be seen in page 83 of the volume of the laws herewith transmitted. The letters being left unsealed will explain themselves.

You will see the necessity of your proceeding without delay to Shawneetown. You will receive the same compensation for your services as was allowed by the General Assembly to the persons who examined the Bank at Shawneetown last winter.

Your friend

EDWARD COLES

ALEXANDER MILLER Esq. Edwardsville

Copy of a letter to E. B. W. Jones.

VANDALIA, April 7, 1825

Sir—The General Assembly, at its last session passed a Resolution (which can be seen in the volume of the laws just printed) authorizing the Governor “to appoint a competent person to investigate and examine the Branch Bank of the State at Shawneetown, and report to the Governor on or before the first day of May.” In pursuance of this Resolution I have appointed

Alexander Miller, who will deliver you this communication and to whom you are required to exhibit for his inspection and examination, all the Books, papers, notes, mortgages, money, and state paper, belonging to the Branch Bank, of which you are Cashier, and to afford him every facility and explanation to a thorough and satisfactory investigation, and to enable him to make a detailed and correct report of its actual situation.

I am Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

E. B. W. JONES, Cashier of the Branch of the State Bank at Shawneetown

Copy of a letter to E. C. Berry<sup>1</sup>.

VANDALIA, April 9, 1825

*Sir*—It is provided by “an Act Supplementary to an act establishing the State Bank of Illinois” approved January 10, 1825, that “the Several Cashiers now in Office, not being defaulters, and having faithfully discharged the duties of that Office and who shall on or before the first day of May next, execute to the Governor, bond and security, to be approved by the Governor” &c &c. “Conditioned for their good behavior, and the faithful discharge of the duties of their office, shall be and continue in Office, but on failure of any Cashier to comply with the provisions of this section the Govr. shall, and is hereby authorized to remove the delinquent and appoint another” &c.

To enable me to carry into effect the provisions of this act, and the clear intention of the Legislature, it is necessary for me, on or before the first of May, to have satisfactory evidence that the Cashiers of the principal Bank, and the several Branches, are not defaulters, and have faithfully discharged the duties of their Offices. I have therefore to request of the President and Directors to furnish me with the requisite vouchers on this Subject; and if the necessary evidence is not in their possession to

1. Elijah C. Berry: August 28, 1817–October 9, 1818, auditor of public accounts for Illinois Territory; June 2, 1818, appointed captain of rifle company in First Regiment of St. Clair County Militia; October 9, 1818–August 29, 1831, state auditor; June 11, 1821–January 22, 1835, adjutant-general.—Moses, John, *Illinois Historical and Statistical*, Chicago, 1892.

procure it by an examination, which they are expressly empowered to make whenever they deem it expedient.

I am Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

COL. E. C. BERRY President of the State Bank of Illinois

Copy of a letter to Edward Mundy.

VANDALIA, April 17, 1825

*Sir*—Your Bond, for the faithful discharge of your duties as cashier of the Branch of the State Bank at Palmyra was received the day before yesterday. Believing that the security tendered is not equal to \$30,000, it is my duty to state the fact and to require additional security. This can be done, either by adding additional names to the bond already given, or by executing another Bond with sufficient Security. Col. Ewing who will deliver you this letter, and who has been deputed by the President and Directors of the State Bank to examine the Branch at Palmyra, has in his possession the Bond you forwarded to me.

You will have seen by my letter of the 7th instant that it is my wish that you should hand your Bond to Genl. Robinson, the Circuit Attorney, for his examination and approval. If you deliver a Bond to the satisfaction of Genl. Robinson on or before the first of May, I shall consider the provision of the law complied with, as much so as if it had been delivered to me.

With great Respect yours

EDWARD COLES

EDWARD MUNDY Esq. Cashier of the Branch of the State Bank at Palmyra

Copy of a letter to Secretary at War.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

April 20th, 1825

*Dr Sir*—I have received a memorial signed by 35 citizens residing at the Lead Mines on Fever River, complaining of the assumption of jurisdiction over them by the Territory of Michigan.

They set fourth what I have always understood was the fact, that they reside within the Territorial limits of the State of Illinois; that notwithstanding this their property has been assessed, and when they have refused to pay the tax levied by the Authorities of Michigan, they have been arrested and by force of arms taken to a considerable distance up to Crawford County, and there punished for disobeying and resisting the Laws of that Territory. These acts having created as might be expected considerable excitement, I have thought proper to hasten to make them known through you to the President, and to suggest whether it would not be adviseable to direct some scientific officer belonging to the army and stationed in this quarter of the Union, immediately to make the necessary observations to ascertain where Latitude  $42^{\circ} 30'$ ; the northern boundary of Illinois, touches the River Mississippi. It would be sufficient for them to ascertain the point on the River, as the population does not as yet extend into the interior; and I have no doubt the authorities and people of Illinois and Michigan would acquiesce in and observe the boundary thus designated by the executive of Union, untill the Legislature should make provision for ascertaining and marking the boundary line between the State and Territory.

By giving this subject your immediate attention you will confer a favor on your old friend

EDWARD COLES

JAS BARBOUR esqr sec of War Washington

P. S. Would it not be adviseable at once to put a stop to the cause of excitement by directing Gov Cass to stay all further proceedings against the citizens of Fever River and to suspend the exercise of jurisdiction over them until the boundary line is ascertained.

E. C.

Copy of letter to Gov. Cass.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

April 20th, 1825

*Dr. Sir*—The enclosed copy of a letter this day addressed to the Secretary of War, will make known to you a serious cause of

complaint on the part of certain citizens of this State residing at Fever River against the authorities of Michigan Territory. As it may take several months for the Presidents instructions to be received and executed I would suggest whether it is not due to that courtesy & friendly and respectful attention which I hope ever to witness in the intercourse between Illinois and Michigan, and also a necessary precaution to preserve the peace and harmony between the individuals concerned, that you should direct the local authorities to desist from all further proceedings against the citizens at Fever River and suspend the exercise of any jurisdiction over them until the President can have time to ascertain the boundary between the State and Territory.

I feel assured from my knowledge of your character, you will promptly act in conformity to my suggestion, and thus allay all excitement between our citizens

I am with great respect and esteem yours

EDWARD COLES

LEWIS CASS Esqr Gov. of the Territory of Michigan

Copy of a letter to A. Miller.

May 23d, 1825

*Sir*—You will receive enclosed a commission as cashier of the Branch of the State Bank located at Edwardsville. It is desirable that you should immediately enter upon the duties of the office, and I require that you shall make as soon as practicable to the president and directors of the principal Bank at Vandalia a minute statement of the situation in which you find the books and papers, and the amount of money in Bank, and in a word a detailed Report of the manner in which it has been conducted and its present condition.

I am &c &c

EDWARD COLES

ALEXANDER MILLER Esqr Edwardsville

Copy of a letter to Jas. B. Ray acting Gov. Indiana.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

May 25, 1825

*Sir*—Being impressed with the great importance to the Union, and especially to this section of it from connecting by

artificial channels the navigable tributaries of the Mississippi with those of the great Northern Lakes; and feeling the most anxious solicitude to commence and perfect as soon as possible those very important ones between the Illinois river and Lake Michigan, and the Wabash river and Lake Erie, I could not but be highly gratified at the interest you evince in the success of the latter in your letter of the 17th ulto, which has just been received. There can be no doubt but what the Illinois and Wabash rivers form the best natural channels, and can be more readily and with less expence than any others, be connected by artificial channels with the navigable waters of the Lakes. And when the natural facilities are considered, and the comparative smallness of the expence is estimated, in connection with the present resources, and that rapid increasing prosperity which we have a right to expect, it is not believed that the costs would be more disproportionate to the means of Indiana and Illinois than the sum which it is estimated will be required to open the artificial navigable communications which have been recently commenced by the State of Ohio. I have been anxious that the States as such should undertake this important work, and opposed to incorporating companies to effect them. Immediately upon entering upon the duties of the Executive of this State, I called the attention of the Legislature to the interesting subject of internal improvements; pointed out our propitious natural advantages; urged the propriety of improving them, dwelt upon the inestimable benefits resulting from it, and designated the means by which the State could speedily commence and not very remotely complete a navigable communication between the Illinois river and Lake Michigan and in conjunction with Indiana between the Wabash and Lake Erie. I so far succeeded as to have provision made by Law for the examination of the country and a survey and estimate of a canal connecting the former and in connection with Indiana to have the obstruction to the navigation of the Wabash examined as far as the river was the common property of both States and estimates made of the probable expense of removing them and perfecting the navigation.

Reports in both cases were laid before the last General Assembly, and I renewed my recommendation and strongly urged

on the favorable consideration of the members, the propriety of making provision for speedily commencing these desirable works. But a majority were doubtful of the ability of the State to undertake them, and preferred incorporating companies in both cases. This was done and I immediately transmitted to Gov. Hendricks the copy of an act incorporating companies to perfect the navigation of the Wabash, which required the concurrence of Indiana for the purpose of having it acted on by the Legislature of that State during its last Session. I have not been officially informed what Indiana has done, though a rumour has reached us that she has not acceded to this Measure, but what has been substituted for it, or what has been, or is proposed to be done on her part I have not even heard it rumoured; and on these points would be much obliged to you for information.

You will see from the foregoing brief statement what has been done by this State and from your knowledge of our resources, the local situation of our country, the character of our people, the nature of the obstructions to be removed, the immense advantages resulting, and consequently the strong inducements to exertion you can judge whether I am mistaken in supposing the time not far distant when the waters of the Wabash and Erie will mingle and waft on their bosoms vessels laden with the products of their valleys, and with the richest treasures of all quarters of the globe, inspiring renewing industry & enterprise, defusing wealth and happiness and increasing the intercourse the affection of our citizens by enjoying the benefits of a great interior commercial intercourse, with the largest cities, and most remote districts and bringing closer and binding more strongly together every part of our great and happy republic. Having long taken a deep interest and felt a most anxious solicitude to hasten the propitious period when we should enjoy these inestimable advantages, you may safely calculate upon my giving all the aid and support in my power, both officialy and individually, to any measure which will promote so desirable an object.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

JAS B. RAY Esqr acting Gov of Indiana, Indianopolis [*sic*]



## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, June 5, 1825

*Sir*—In compliance with a law of this State, I have the honor herewith to transmit you three copies of the Acts of the last General Assembly of Illinois; and beg leave to request a like interchange of the laws of the State over which you have the honor to preside.

I am very respectfully

EDWARD COLES

Note—A copy of the above letter was transmitted to the Governor of each of the States.

Copy of a letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

## STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

June 15, 1825

*Sir*—Agreeably to the suggestion contained in your letter of April 2d, I transmit to you enclosed a certified copy of the Act of the Legislature of this State, "providing for the establishment of free Schools;" in the 19th section of which you will see who are constituted Commissioners of the School fund, and that they are authorised to receive and give acquittances for all such sums of money as this State is or shall be entitled to receive from the Treasury of the United States.

I am very Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

GEORGE GRAHAM Esq: Commissioner of the General Land Office  
Washington

Copy of a letter to the Commissioner of the General Land Office.

## STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

June 15, 1825

*Sir*—In reply to your letter of March 20, 1825, in which you asked for "a Complete list of all the tracts selected by the Exec-

utive of the State of Illinois for the use of a Seminary of learning," I cannot give you any additional information to that contained in my letters to you dated July 18 and December 16, 1824,<sup>1</sup> except to say that no further selections have since been made.

Thinking it possible my letter of December 16 may have miscarried, or been mislaid, I have directed a copy of it to be forwarded to you in this.

With great respect

EDWARD COLES

The Commissioner of the General Land Office Washington

Copy of a letter to T. T. Tucker Treasurer of the United States.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

June 15. 1825

*Dr. Sir*—I have received your letter of April 7th in which was enclosed your "draft No. 2676 on P. P. Enos Receiver of the Public Monies at Springfield, for 5.702 06-100 dollars, the Amount of warrant No. 61 issued by the Secretary of the Treasury." Your draft was endorsed over by me to the Commissioners of the School fund of Illinois viz: E. C. Berry, Auditor of Public Accounts, and George Forquer, Secretary of State, who received and gave a receipt, signed in duplicate, to P. P. Enos for the amount.

I have this day transmitted to the Commissioner of the General Land Office a certified copy of an Act Constituting Commissioners of the School fund, and authorizing them to receive this money.

I am with great respect and sincere regard your friend

EDWARD COLES

T. T. TUCKER Esq. Treasurer of the U. S. Washington

This day transmitted to the Gov. of each State A resolution relative the Ohio resolutions, for colonizing people of color.

1. See *ante* pp. 64, 72.

Copy of a letter to Leut. Gov. A. F. Hubbard<sup>1</sup>.

VANDALIA, June 22, 1825

*Sir*—You will recollect that I made known to you last winter, and again repeated the subject when I saw you in May, that I should have occasion to go to the Eastward about the middle of July. The object of this letter is to notify you that *after the 18th day of July* I shall be absent, and that the duties of the executive will devolve, in pursuance of the constitution, on you as the Lieut Governor of the State, during my absence, which I expect will not be longer than about three months.

I am very respectfully

(Signed) EDWARD COLES

A. F. HUBBARD Esq. Lt. Gov. of the State of Illinois, Shawneetown

Copy of a letter to the Cashier of the Branch Shawneetown.

VANDALIA, June 30, 1825

*Sir*—I have been informed by the board of Directors of the State Bank of Illinois, that the semi-annual reports from the Branch Bank located at Shawneetown become due on the 16th July and the 16th January. As some of the Cashiers of the Branches have heretofore been very neglectful and remiss in making to the princ'l. Bank these reports, I have thought it advisable to notify them all, that in future punctuality will be expected and required; and that however unpleasant it may be, I have determined, under a conviction of its necessity to the well being of the Institution, rigidly to carry the law into effect, and wish you distinctly to understand, that if these Reports are *not* made and *the amount of the ten per cent together with the voluntary payments and interest* be not returned, as required by law, a very few days will be permitted to pass before I shall conceive myself bound to execute the authority given me, to dismiss you from Office, and appoint another in your place. I hope and trust

1. Adolphus Frederick Hubbard: 1818, represented Gallatin County in Constitutional Convention; 1818-20, represented Gallatin County in General Assembly; 1820, presidential elector; 1822-26, lieutenant-governor; 1826, unsuccessful candidate for governor.—Reynolds, John, *My Own Times*, Illinois, 1855; Moses, John, *Illinois Historical and Statistical*, Chicago, 1892.

however that the notice given will have the desired effect in every instance, and that there will be no further cause of complaint, much less any necessity for exercising an unpleasant power.

I have also been informed by the board of Directors, that there is a charge in your account as stated by Mr. Miller, for protesting notes, which they "consider exorbitant and contrary to law, and therefore cannot be allowed to the extent claimed." As the President of the Bank will address you a letter on this subject, I have only noticed it for the purpose of saying that if you do not explain satisfactorily this item, nor return the amount improperly charged to the Mother Bank with your next semi-annual Report, you must and will be considered as in arrears, and of course be treated accordingly.

In Mr. Millers Report on the situation of the Shawneetown Branch Bank nothing is said about voluntary payments. He explains this by saying it was impossible, in any reasonable time, to have ascertained the amount then paid, from the irregular & unsystematic manner in which the books had been kept. It is proper to state, that you will be expected with your next semi-annual Report, to pay into the vault of the principal Bank the whole amount of the voluntary payments and interest which may have been received and which had not been reloaned previous to the 10th day of January 1825 over and above the necessary expenses of the Bank.

I am very Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

The Cashier of the Branch of the State Bank, Shawneetown

(Circular)

VANDALIA, June 30, 1825

*Sir*—As few of the cashiers have heretofore been punctual and some very remiss in making to the principal Bank the Semi-annual Reports required by law; and as the power to enforce punctuality has recently been given to the Executive, and believing as I do that it will have a great and salutary tendency to restore confidence in the administration of the Bank, and credit and value to its paper I should fail in my duty were I not

to exercise the power given me to compel an observance of legal provisions which I conceive so beneficial to the Bank, and to the State. I have therefore determined to make known to the several cashiers the respective days on which their Semi-annual Reports will become due; And that in future I shall expect and require that these Reports will be made punctually and that if they are not, but very few days will be permitted to pass before I shall conceive myself bound to exercise the Authority with which I am vested of dismissing them from office, and of appointing others in their places.

I am informed by the board of Directors of the State Bank that your Semi-annual Reports become due on the first day of July and the first day of January. You will therefore bear in recollection that at those periods the law enjoins it as a duty which I shall rigidly require you to perform, that you make a report and pay to the principal Bank the amount of the ten per cent, together with the Voluntary Payments and interest. All the voluntary payments and interest above what was necessary for the expenses of the Bank, which may have been received and which had not been relouaned previous to the tenth day of January last, will be required to be promptly paid to the Principal Bank.

I am very Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

The Cashier of the Branch of the State Bank at Brownsville

Copy of a letter General Clark<sup>1</sup>.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
VANDALIA, 27th Oct., 1825

*Sir*—During the last week a written communication has been received by me purporting to be signed by forty citizens of the

1. William Clark: born August 1, 1770, near Charlottesville, Caroline County, Virginia; 1784, moved to Louisville, Kentucky; 1788, appointed ensign; March 7, 1792, became lieutenant of infantry; September 1793, appointed adjutant and quarter-master of the 4th 'sub-legion; July 1796, resigned; June 19, 1803, asked by Merriwether Lewis to join him on exploring expedition; March 1804, appointed by President Jefferson second lieutenant of infantry and assigned duty on Captain Lewis' expedition; January 1806, appointed first lieutenant; February 27, 1807, resigned from army; February 5, 1811, appointed brigadier-general of the militia of Louisiana Territory; 1813-21, appointed by President Madison governor of Missouri; 1821, unsuccessful candidate for governor of Missouri; May 1822-September 1838, appointed superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis, by President Monroe; September 1, 1838, died at St. Louis.—*Wisconsin Historical Collections*, XI, 258.

north fork of Sangamon in this State. They prefer a complaint against a band of Kickapoos indians who they say are infesting their neighborhood, "killing their hogs before their eyes and in defiance of the settlers, declaring the land is theirs and that the whites are intruders upon it; and that they will fight before they will leave it. That in two moons more the great man above will rain down Kickapoos enough to cover all that land." If I am not mistaken the Kickapoos have stipulated to remove west of the Mississippi. They I believe are within your supertendency [*sic*]. It would be highly gratifying to our citizens, that such steps should be taken as are best calculated to ascertain who are the aggressors the whites or the indians. Not being well acquainted with the indian Department, permit me to solicit from you such information as you may possess in relation to this matter, and as to the means to be used in order to quiet these disturbances

I have the honor to be Sir your obt Servant

A. F. HUBBARD  
Acting Gov Illinois

Copy of a letter to James S Johnson Esq.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
VANDALIA, NOV. 1st, 1825

Sir—I have had the honor to receive a circular letter addressed to the Governors of the several States of the Union by you, as chairman of a Special committee of the Senate of the U. S., to whom was refered certain resolutions in relation to the expediency of establishing a permanent fund out of proceeds of the sales of the public lands for the purpose of education and internal improvement; & requesting to be informed what measures have been adopted by law in this State for the encouragement of education and the promotion of internal improvement; and particularly what System has been established for primary Schools, and what funds have been provided; what number of youths are educated, and the price of tuition at them; what literary institutions have been founded, and how endowed; what number of Students and the expense of education at the colleges [*sic*]; what turn pike roads, canals, railways, bridges &c

have been executed, and the amount of capital expended therein; what works are contemplated, and what funds provided.

By the provisions of the act passed by Congress on the 18th April 1818, to enable the people of Illinois to form a Constitution & State Government and for its admission into the Union, Congress stipulated on certain condition, to grant to the State Sections No. 16 in every Township for the use of Schools for the inhabitants of the Township; and two townships of land for the use of a Seminary of learning; and also the three per cent of the net proceeds of the sales of public land within the state for the encouragement of Learning, of which one sixth part to be exclusively bestowed on a college or university.

The whole amount of this three per cent. fund which had accrued prior to the 31st of december 1824, as stated by the Coms of the General Office, was \$11.657 which sum has been received by this State. From the lands granted by Congress for a Seminary of learning and Township Schools no rent or revenue of any kind has yet been received, nor has any provision been made by law in relation to these subjects, except authorising the leasing and protecting the lands from depredation, until last winter when a law passed providing for the establishing of Free schools. This Law requires the county commissioners courts, on the petition of a certain number of inhabitants, to form school districts in their respective counties, and when formed empower them to occupy or lease the school land in the Township and authorise the legal voters resident within the district to levy a tax not exceeding one half per cent, nor amounting to more than 10 dollars upon any one individual per annum; and appropriates in aid of the Township Schools, out of the State Treasury two per cent of the revenue of the State, which together with the five part of the three per cent fund Stipulated to be paid by the U S to this State for the encouragement of learning, are to be annually divided between the different counties in proportion to the number of white inhabitants. For your further information of the details of this law I transmit you a printed copy of it.

The State has as yet founded no literary institutions, though there have been established by individuals small academies in

different parts of the State, several of which have received acts of incorporation; but I have no precise information of the number of scholars educated at them, or of the expense of tuition.

Illinois has executed no public works with funds obtained from the State Treasury, nor expended any money derived from that source on canals, roads, rail-ways or bridges, except in laying out roads, designated by law, between distant points, and in appropriating specifick sums in aid of local objects, such as bridges, causeways &c deemed of public importance, but the erection of which would be disproportionably burdensome on the citizens of the vicinity.

The works of the greatest importance which the State has in contemplation, and in which her citizens take a deep interest, and are most anxious to undertake and complete as soon as possible, are those by which navigable communications will be effected between Lake Michigan and the Illinois river, and Lake Erie and the Wabash river. Memorials have been addressed to Congress on the subject soliciting the aid of the Federal Gov. either in land, or in such manner as in its wisdom it conceive best to effect their objects, which are deemed not only of the first importance to the prosperity of this State, but highly so to the union, and directly productive of revenue to the U S from the increased demand and value they would give to the public lands. No funds have yet been provided for these objects; and it is thought by many to be doubtful whether they can be effected for several years unless Congress will assert, at least by a grant of a portion of the land through which the canals will pass.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

J. S. JOHNSON Esq. Chairman Special Committee of the Senate  
U. S.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Nov. 4, 1825

*Sir*—On the 20th of January last I transmitted to the Govr. of Indiana a certified copy of "An Act to incorporate the Wabash navigation Company," which had been passed by the Legislature



of Illinois, and which required the concurrence of the Legislature of Indiana. In a letter I addressed to you on the 25th of May I informed you that I had not been notified what the Legislature of Indiana had done in relation to this act, and that I was anxious to do so. Not having since been informed, and the Legislature of this State being about to convene soon. I am constrained by the necessity I shall be under of making officially known to the Legislature what Indiana has done in relation to the Act adopted by it at its last Session, to request the favor of you to give me this information as soon as it may be convenient.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

The Governor of Indiana, Indianapolis

Copy of a letter to D. P. Cook.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 30th, 1826

*Sir*—I transmit you inclosed a Memorial from the Legislature of this State to Congress, asking a donation from the United States, of a portion of the public Land, on the route of the proposed canal to enable this State to open a navigable communication between the Illinois river and Lake Michigan.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

D. P. COOK Esq.

A similar letter was this day addressed to J. B. Thomas and E. K. Kane.

GEORGE FORQUER Secty.

Copy of a letter to E. Brigham.

VANDALIA, Febr. 15th, 1826

*Sir*—It is my wish that you will act as the Agent of the State for the protection of Seminary lands situated in the county of Sangamon. If you consent to take upon yourself this agency, you will be pleased to consider this letter your authority. I enclose you the copy of an act recently passed for your informa-

tion and guidance entitled 'An act to prevent persons from trespassing on Seminary and School lands.' You will be pleased if you accept the agency, to be vigilant in watching and protecting the seminary lands from depredations, and in furnishing all the information in your possession to the grand jury from time to time. You are desired to examine the lands and to report to me whether the lands have been depredated on, and if so by whom and to what extent.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

E. BRIGHAM Esq. Sangamon

The following appeared in the margin: Declines to accept, by letter 2d March.

Copy of a letter to George Hackett.

VANDALIA, Feb. 15th, 1826

*Sir*—I transmit you inclosed for your information and guidance a copy of an act of the General Assembly passed at the last session, entitled "An act to prevent persons from trespassing on Seminary and School lands." I desire you will as the agent of the State be very vigilant in your attentions to watch and protect from depredation the Seminary lands in Morgan County; and that you will give the necessary information to enable Grand Juries to present all persons who may trespass on Seminary lands.

You will also be pleased to report to me whether any persons have depredated on the lands situated in Morgan County, and if so, who, and to what extent.

I am respectfully

EDWARD COLES

GEORGE HACKETT Esq. Morgan County

Copy of a Letter to Thomas R. Coville.

March 14, 1826

*Sir*—I have received your Letter dated the 18th ulto at the Rapids of the Illinois River, in which you inform me that since your residence at that place you have discovered a small quantity

of Salt water and have reason to beleve [*sic*] with some expense and trouble a sufficient quantity, could be procured to supply a large manufactory of salt; but before you incur any further expense you are desirous of receiving from me an assurance if such a discovery should be made, that you shall have a lease for a reasonable time and on liberal conditions, for the Saline and the necessary lands about it.

By the provisions of an act entitled "An act to encourage the discovery of Salt water," approved March 4th, 1819, the Governor is authorized to lease any quantity of the public Lands not exceeding one Section on which Salt water may have been discovered for the purpose of manufacturing Salt, on such terms and conditions, and under such regulations and restrictions as he may think most conducive to the public interest; but in every such case he is bound on receiving satisfactory evidence of the fact, to give the preference to the original discoverer of the Saline.

You will perceive from this that if you should discover Salt water on the public Lands and produce satisfactory evidence of the fact and of your being the discoverer, you will be entitled under a Law of the State to a Lease of the premises. It will be proper for you to forward me a formal written application for a lease in which the particular Section wanted shall be described and setting forth your claim as the discoverer of the Saline. On my receiving satisfactory evidence of the existence of salt water in sufficient quantity to make it an object worth the attention of the State, I will apply to the Federal Govt. under our compact with it for a grant of the Saline together with a reasonable quantity of land for its use.

In the mean time you will be entitled as the discoverer to its use, and when it is obtained by the State to a lease agreeably to the provisions of the law above refered to. The precise terms and conditions of the lease can not be stated until more information is received, as to the character of the discovery; But this you may rest assured of, that if a valuable discovery is made, a liberal lease will be given to the discoverer on receiving the grant from the U. S. It has been usual in such cases to grant a lease *free of rent* for four or five and even ten years on the Lessees binding

himself in a bond with Sufficient security to dig or bore a stipulated number of feet into the earth or Rock and make certain improvements &c.

I am very Respectfully

EDWARD COLES

MR. THOMAS R. COVILLE Illinois Rapids, Peoria Post Office

Copy of a letter to Isaac Morgan.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

April 4, 1826

*Sir*—By a Resolution of the General Assembly of this State adopted at the Session before the last the Governor is authorized to appoint an Agent for the protection of the Seminary Lands in the different counties; and by an act of the last Session (a certified copy of which is herewith delivered you) Trespassing on the School Lands is made an inditeable offence, and the courts are expressly enjoined to give that act in charge to Grand Juries. You will be pleased to consider this your Letter of appointment as Agent of the State to Superentend and protect the Seminary Lands situated within the County of Sangamon A List of which Mr Brigham will hand you; if not, you can procure it from the Land Office at Springfield.

And I especially injoin on you that you inspect the Seminary Lands from time to time and be vigilant in detecting and bringing to the Knowledge of the Grand Jury every depredation which may have been or hereafter may be committed on them. I also require of you to inspect the different tracts as soon as you conveniently can, and report to me the number and extent of the improvements made on each, and, if the lands have in any instance been depredated upon and if so by whom and to what extent.

I am &c &c &c

EDWARD COLES

Governor of the State of Illinois.

To ISAAC MORGAN Esq. Sangamon County

Copy of a letter of appointment.

TO ALL WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

I hereby appoint James Adams<sup>1</sup>; Alexander Miller, and John Tillson Junr<sup>2</sup>. Commissioners to examine the Bank of Edwardsville, in pursuance of an act of the General Assembly entitled "An act to provide for the examination of the Bank of Edwardsville," approved January 26th, 1826. And authorise and empower them to execute and fulfil the duties enjoined by the said Act, A certified copy of which is hereunto annexed.

In testimony where of I have hereunto subscribed my name this the fourth day of March 1826.

EDWARD COLES

Governor of the State of Illinois

Copy of a Letter to James Mason.

VANDALIA, June 20, 1826

*Dr. Sir*—By an act passed at the last Session of the Legislature, the Govr. of Illinois is required to ascertain on what terms a Loan could be procured by the State for the purpose of cutting a Canal between the Illinois River and Lake Michigan and to communicate the same for the information of the Legislature at its next winter Session. In compliance with this injunction I have to request that during the Tour you are about to make to New York, Philadelphia and other of the Eastern cities you will lend your aid in procuring all the information you can in furtherance of the views and wishes of the General Assembly.

You are so thoroughly acquainted with the deep interest felt by our citizens in this canal, the present resources and future

1. James Adams: born January 24, 1783, at Hartford, Connecticut; 1809, married Harriet Denton and moved to Oswego, New York; 1821, moved to Springfield, Illinois; 1823, elected justice of the peace; January 12, 1825, elected probate judge for Sangamon County; 1826, unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant-governor; 1827, took part in Winnebago War; 1830, unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant-governor; 1831-33, took part in Black Hawk War; 1834, unsuccessful candidate for governor; 1841, elected probate judge; August 11, 1843, died.—Power, John C., *History of Sangamon County*, Springfield, 1876.

2. John Tillson: born March 13, 1796, at Halifax, Massachusetts; 1819, emigrated to Hillsboro, Illinois, and entered real estate business; October 6, 1822, married Christiana Holmes; 1826, unsuccessful candidate for state treasurer; 1832-53, trustee of Illinois College; May 11, 1853, died at Peoria.—*Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois*.

prospects of the State and the efforts made by the Representatives of the people both in the State and Federal Councils and the grounds of our expectation of a donation of Land from the latter, and indeed with the whole subject in all its bearings and my views and impressions communicated in the different conversations I have had with you, that it is unnecessary for me to do more on this occasion than to ask you to call on the monied and most intelligent men on such subjects, and ascertain if their [*sic*] will be a prospect in the course of the next year for the State to make a Loan to effect the contemplated object.

It would be desirable to ascertain not only on what terms a loan could be probably obtained after a liberal grant of Land from Congress; but if Contrary to all calculation we should be disappointed in this reasonable and just expectation whether a Loan could be effected, in a word the difference in our prospects of obtaining a loan with, or without a grant.

As the General Assembly must have been aware of the great and incalculable fluctuations to which the moneyed market is liable, and of the impossibility of foretelling on what terms a loan could be obtained twelve months hence, it could of course expect only general information as to the disposition of moneyed men to make loans to distant States, and particularly the extent of their confidence in the State of Illinois.

And it is presumable also that one object in requesting the Executive to obtain information was to ascertain the opinion and wishes of moneyed men as to what pledges, securities or obligations the State should lay itself under, or in what train it should place its revenue, or what provisions should be made by law which would be satisfactory to them and tend to strengthen and confirm their confidence.

I will thank you to ascertain what amount, and on what terms, Ohio obtained a loan last year to cut her canals, what pledges she gave, or what legal provisions she made for the punctual payment of interest and principal, and what is the present price of that stock, and also whether she has since obtained another loan, and if so to what amount and on what terms.

As the owners of Military Bounty Lands are immediately and greatly interested in the canal I wish you to converse with all

those you may see and endeavor to impress on them the individual advantage resulting to them from their promoting the views of the State.

From the great interest which I know you to take in the Canal, I cannot but indulge the belief that you will exert yourself to further the views of the Legislature and to promote an object which will be attended with such incalculable benefit to our country generally and particularly to this State.

Wishing you a pleasant journey I am with much respect yours.

EDWARD COLES

JAMES MASON Esq. Edwardsville

Copy of a Letter to Col Henry S Dodge, New York

VANDALIA, June 20, 1826

*Dr. Sir*—The General Assembly of Illinois during its last winters session repealed the Charter incorporating the Illinois & Michigan Canal Company, and required the Executive to ascertain on what terms a loan could be obtained by the State to construct that Canal. You would render an acceptable service to the State and greatly oblige me, by aiding us in procuring the desired information.

It cannot of course be expected from the incalculable fluctuations to which the moneyed market is liable, that any positive assurance can be given this year, of a loan being made the next. But the object of the Legislature doubtless was to ascertain as far as possible the extent of the confidence of moneyed men in the State, and their disposition to loan it money for the proposed object, if the moneyed market should at the time justify such an investment of capital. It would be desirable to ascertain whether there would be any difficulty in obtaining a loan in aid of the work if Congress should make a liberal grant of Land; and on the other hand if contrary to our reasonable and just expectations, Congress should not make such a grant at its next Session whether a loan could be procured on the credit of the State to cut

the Canal. And if we are to obtain money by loan what pledge the State should give, or obligation it should lay itself under or legal provision it should adopt, to secure the regular and periodical payment of the interest and ultimate payment of the principal loaned which would be satisfactory and inspire confidence in those who might be disposed to make such an investment of their funds.

Your knowledge of the feasibility of constructing the canal its estimated cost, the grounds on which we expect a donation from Congress, and the great benefits resulting from it, as well in the facilities of intercourse as its probable value in a pecuniary view, and also of the extent and fertility of the State, its present population and resources, its increasing wealth and future prospects, will enable you to give all the information which may be needed or desired by those desposed to make to it a loan, to enable it at once to open a navigable communication through which will flow all that is wanting to make Illinois a State of the first class and give her that Station among her sister states of the Union which she is destined to occupy.

As the owners of Military Bounty Lands are immediately and greatly interested in the Canal I wish you to see the largest proprietors living in New York, and impart to them the information you possess, and explain the individual advantage resulting to them, from their promoting the views of the State.

I will thank you to inform me to what amount, and on what terms Ohio obtained a loan last year to cut her canals, what pledge she gave or what legal provisions she made for the punctual payment of interest and principal, and what is the present price of that stock. And also whether she has since obtained an other loan, and if so to what amount and on what terms.

I intended to have written to Mr. Gilbert T. Pell who has evinced an interest in our canal; but Mr. Mason being in haste to set out, I have determined to ask the favor of you to shew him this letter; and to say that I should be very much obliged to him if he would write and give me all the information he can procure in relation to the contents of this letter.



I beg you to present my compliments to Mrs. D. and to be assured of my great respect.

EDWARD COLES

COL. H S. DODGE New York

P. S. Since writing this letter, I have determined to write the enclosed letters which I have done in great haste; and must ask the favor of you to deliver them. As Mr. Mason is now waiting at the door I can only say—Adieu.

Copy of a Letter to David B. Ogden, New York.

VANDALIA, June 20, 1826

*Dr. Sir*—You may recollect my having called on you last summer, in company with Col. Dodge to make some enquiries as to the probability of being able to dispose of the stock of the Illinois and Michigan Canal Company. Since then the Legislature of Illinois has repealed the charter of that company and has evinced a disposition to open the canal under the immediate superintendence of the state, and as preliminary steps, has renewed its application to Congress for a grant of Land, and made it the duty of the Governor to ascertain whether a loan could probably be obtained by the State to aid in effecting the work.

The object of this letter is to ask the favor of you to give me such information as you possess, and your own impressions as to the probability of the State's being able to effect such a loan. Col Dodge who will hand you this, will also show you a letter which I have just written to him explanatory of the wishes of the Legislature and of the subject Generally. This together with the verbal information which his intimate knowledge of the subject in all its bearings will enable him to give, will place you in possession of the wishes of the Legislature and such facts as will enable you to aid in furnishing the desired information.

I beg you to excuse the liberty I take in troubling you with this letter and to be assured of my Great respect.

EDWARD COLES

D. B. OGDEN Esq. New York

Copy of a letter [to] Genl. J. Swift, New York.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, June 20, 1826

*Dr. Sir*—The Legislature of Illinois has made it the duty of the Governor to ascertain, whether a loan could probably be obtained by the State during the next year, for the purpose of enabling it to cut a canal between the Illinois River and Lake Michigan. May I ask the favor of you to give me such information on the subject as you can procure, and your own opinion of the probability of the States being able to effect such a loan. Col. Dodge formerly of this State, and who is well acquainted with every question connected with the contemplated canal, will hand you this and show you a letter I have written to him, from which and his explanations you will be made fully acquainted with the wishes of the Legislature, and placed in possession of all the information you may desire in relation to the canal.

By giving your attention to this subject you will confer an acceptable service to this State, and a great favor on your old acquaintance and friend.

EDWARD COLES

GENL. J. SWIFT New York

Copy of a Letter to Th. R. Smith Esq. Alderman &c &c &c New York.

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, June 20, 1826

*Dr. Sir*—The Legislature of Illinois having made it the duty of the Governor to ascertain on what terms a loan could be procured by the State, during the next year to cut a canal between the Illinois River and Lake Michigan, I take the liberty to address myself to you to obtain the desired information. Having just written a long letter to Col Dodge and fully explained the wishes of the Legislature and pointed out the kind of information wanted, and being now in haste to forward this by Mr. Mason who is on his way to New York I beg leave to refer you to that Letter and to Col. Dodge who will hand you this, and who is well acquainted with every question connected with the canal; and to ask the favor of you to give me such information as you

may possess and your opinion as to the probability of the States being able to effect a loan for the contemplated object.

I gladly avail myself of this occasion to return you my thanks for your kind attentions to me last Summer and to assure you of my great respect.

EDWARD COLES

TH. R SMITH Esq. Alderman &c &c &c New York

Copy of a letter to George Graham Esq. Comr. of the General Land Office.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
July 20, 1826

*Sir*—You have been informed by my reports and letters that of the 36 Sections of land granted by the Congress to this State for the use of a Seminary of learning, 20 have been selected and reserved from sale, and 16 remain to be selected. It is intended to select a portion of these 16 in the District of Country advertised for sale by the President on the 2nd Monday of Sepr. next at Springfield. But as there is some difficulty attending the selection, owing to the occupancy by individuals, I cannot now report to you the particular Sections, and must therefore ask the favor of you to give the directions you did on a former occasion to the Register and Receiver to reserve from sale in Sepr. such sections as I may Report to them as having been selected for the use of a Seminary of Learning.

You have been in the habit for about two years past of Reporting to me the amount of the three percent fund which accrued semi annually. Will you be so obliging as to furnish me with a Statement shewing the amount which has accrued *each* half year from the first of January 1819, to the 30 June, 1826, and the amount Illinois has received, and the sum due her on account of this fund on the 30th ulto.

With great respect I am &c &c

EDWARD COLES

GEORGE GRAHAM Esq. Comr. of the Genl. Land Office Washington

NEW YORK, July 30th, 1826<sup>1</sup>

*Dr. Sir*—In reply to your letter of the 20 June requesting me to make enquiry of the different monied men in the different eastern cities through which I might pass, on what terms a loan could be procured by the State of Illinois for the purpose of cutting a canal between the Illinois River and Lake Michigan. As to Baltimore and Philadelphia my stay was so short I had no opportunity to make any enquiries in either place, but since my arrival in this City I have made particular enquiry of such persons as I thought most likely to give me the information you asked for. I have seen one of the Commisioners for obtaining the Ohio loan (Mr. Buckingham); he informs me that they have obtained a 2d loan of one Million of Dollars; from John Jacob Astor Esq. 101 $\frac{3}{4}$  for 6 pr. cent Stock. The first loan was obtained by the State of Ohio at 97 $\frac{1}{2}$  pr cent for 5 pr. cent Stock. As to what pledges or legal provisions the State of Ohio made for the punctual payment of the interest & principal of her first and Second loan, I will refer you to an advertisement of the Commisioners, which you have enclosed. I have delivered to Henry S. Dodge Esq. your letter which he informed me contained one for Gen. Swift, and one for Thomas R. Swift Esq. Mr. Dodges opinion is that there would not be any difficulty in obtaining a loan if we could obtain a reasonable grant of land from the General Government.

I have had frequent conversation with different Brokers and other monied men in the City and they all uniformly agree, that in as much as the sum is so small in comparison with that of Ohio, that if we obtain any thing like a reasonable grant of land from the General Government we shall not have the least difficulty in obtaining a loan of \$700,000 at 6 pr cent Interest, and some are of opinion, in as much as we had decided twice in favor of a free State, that we could obtain the loan whether we obtained the grant of land or not, and added that they would sooner take the State of Illinois for Security for \$700,000 [than]

1. In volume III. of the Executive Letter Books are found copies of many letters, belonging to an earlier date than the period during which it was kept. All these letters, and the above letter is one, so far as they were not duplicates, have been transferred to their proper places. See Preface.

the State of Kentucky. I also had a conversation with Mr. Benion and Mr. Munn who are two of the largest holders of Military Bounty lands in the city, their reply was that they were very anxious to have a canal made but that they could not do more at present than to pay the high taxes we had imposed on their land.

Respectfully Yours

JAMES MASON

EDWARD COLES Esq.

Circular to the Cashiers of the State Bank of Illinois

August 25, 1826

*Sir*—Deeming it important to the interest of the State to obtain correct information of the situation of the Bank previous to the meeting of the Legislature, the undersigned Governor of Illinois Calls upon the Cashiers to make out and forward to him on the first day of November next answers to the following questions:

1st. What was the amount of State paper loaned at the Bank of which you are cashier ?

2n. How much was loaned on the security of real estate?

3d. How much was loaned on personal security ?

4th. How much loaned on real estate has been repaid and how much remains to be paid ?

5th. How much loaned on personal security has been repaid and how much remains to be paid?

6th. How many individuals borrowed on a pledge of real estate and how many have failed to pay their 1st how many their 2d. their 3rd—their 4th—their 5th instalments, and how many have made full and complete payments ?

7th. How many individuals borrowed on personal security, and how many have failed to pay their 1st—how many their 2nd—their 3rd—their 4th—their 5th. instalments—and how many have made full and complete payments ?

8th. Of the sums loaned on real estate, and which have not been repaid, for what amounts have judgments been obtained,

what amount is in suit, and what amount is due and about to be sued for ?

9th. Of the sums loaned on personal security—for what amount have judgments been obtained—what amount is in suit—and what amount is due and about to be sued for?

10th. What is the amount of Discounts received ?

11th. What is the amount of Interest allowed on the State paper received into the Bank ?

12th. What is the estimated amount of loss in bad debts and insufficient security on loans made on real estate ?

13th. What is the estimated loss on loans made on personal security ?

14th. What is the whole amount of expense incurred by the Bank of which you are Cashier, destinguishing that which has been paid for building or renting a Banking house, for salary to Cashier, and contingent expenses?

15th. What is the present annual expenditure?

16th. What is the amount paid into the Bank since the date of your last Semi-annual Report, and of that amount how much was received in State paper and how much in warrants?

It is to be noticed that all the above enquiries have relation to the first day of November next so as to shew the situation of the Bank on that day.

With all due respect I am &c &c

EDWARD COLES

To the Cashier of the State Bank at . . . . .

Copy of Letter to the Register & Receiver of the Land Office at Springfield:

STATE OF ILLINOIS, Executive Department

September 5, 1826

Enclosed I transmit you a letter from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, directing you to reserve from sale such Lands as I may report to you as having been selected under the directions of the President of the United States for the use of a Seminary of Learning.

I now report to you Sections No. one (1), twelve (12), thirteen (13), twenty-four (24), twenty-five (25), and thirty-six (36) in Township Seventeen (17) North of Range Seven (7) West as having been thus selected, and desire that they may be reserved from sale as a part of the thirty six sections granted by Congress to the State of Illinois for the use of a Seminary of Learning.

I am Respectfully,

EDWARD COLES

Copy of a Letter to Jas. Barbour Esq. Secy. of War.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, Executive Department

September 8, 1826

*Sir*—Your letter of July 11 was not received until the 30 of Augt. In compliance with your request that I would give my earliest attention to the subject I hasten to reply to your several enquiries and to save a repetition of them shall do so in reference to the number & in the numerical order in which they are stated.

1st. The returns are defective, but it is believed there are enrolled in the Militia about 12,000 men rank & file.

2nd. To shew fully how the militia are organized, and in what respects we have departed from the provision contained in the Law of Congress, I send you inclosed a printed copy of an act recently passed "for the organization and government of the Militia of this State."

3rd. I have no particular experience on this subject; but have always heard and believed the Volunteer Corps to be by far the most efficient.

4th. In a time of profound peace and with no prospect as it is believed of War, there is little zeal displayed in forming volunteer Corps. But in case of war there would be doubtless a preference to volunteer service as well for the opportunity it affords for the association of active patriotic and high minded men as for selection of officers in whom the men would have greater confidence.

5th. No, it operates as a salutary incentive.

6th. About one twelfth.

7th. I think it would not. But on the contrary the power in a part of the Militia to make by-laws would create a discordance which would be prejudicial to discipline and injurious to the service by weakening the unity and efficiency of the whole.

8th, 9th & 10th. It would be doubtless highly beneficial to class the Militia & in my opinion they should be classed according to age. All under a specified age (say 25) should form the "active," all above it the "sedentary" Militia.

11th. I am not prepared to give a full answer to this enquiry. But I will say that I should think it highly advantageous to organize the Militia in such manner that during peace they should be commanded by Lieutenants or Deputies, and when called into service they should be commanded by officers of full rank. For instance a Regiment during peace to be commanded by a *Lieut. Colonel*, but when called into service to be commanded by a *Colonel* who should be selected for his superior qualification and without regard to previous rank. There would unquestionably be many advantages resulting from the power of selection, in time of war & emergency, [of] the best qualified officers without giving umbrage to any. The Militia as now organized is a mere school of titles where honors are conferred more from a momentary impulse of personal kindness than from a sense of the qualifications of the individuals.

12th & 13th. Yes. The period of service should be at least six months if not longer.

14th. In answer to this question I refer to the inclosed law.

15th. Frequent musters are injurious to society, and are productive of little benefit to the Militia. But little Military information is gained, bad moral habits acquired, and much time is lost. One company muster, and one regimental muster in each year would be sufficient to enroll organize and teach the men the necessary knowledge to prepare them for being called into service.

16th. The officers should be thoroughly drilled and instructed in the duties of the field and Camp. But I do not think it would be an improvement to confine the musters exclusively



to the officers. As such public opportunities to display Military knowledge forms an inducement to acquire it.

17th. It is not. Chiefly for the want of proper books of instruction.

18th. We have no Artillery.

19th. We have but one Company of Cavalry and they are drilled according to Duane.

I have forwarded two of your printed circulars to Generals Duncan & Street, whose information and experience will enable them to give more correct and valuable information than can be furnished by your friend and fellow citizen.

EDWARD COLES

The Secretary of War Washington

Copy of a Letter to Willis Hargrave Esq., Superintendent of the Ohio Saline.

VANDALIA, Sep. 30, 1826

*Sir*—By the 2nd Section of an act entitled, "An act regulating the Gallatin County Salines and for other purposes," Approved Jany 13, 1826, the Superintendant of the Salines is required to make out a detailed report to the Executive, of the quantity of Salt made at said Saline by the Several furnaces, the amount of receipts and expenses, the quantity of metal and other property belonging to, and in possession of the State, and recommend such regulations for the Government of the Saline, as his experience may dictate; to be reported on the first day of the next regular session of the General Assembly."

To enable me to examen [*sic*] and thoroughly understand your report, and to make to the General Assembly such comments as I may think the subject requires, it is neccessary [*sic*] that I should receive your report several days before the meeting of the Legislature, which takes place on the first Monday of December next.

In addition to the information required by the legislature I must request that you will further state whether all, if not, how many of the Lots of the Saline are worked? How many Leases have been surrendered? How many have been

extended for ten years, and how many have been renewed under the act of January last, and on what terms? Since the Salines were transferred to the State, how much rent has been released by the General Assembly, or otherwise lost, and what is the amount of rent now due to the State, and by whom, and what proportion, if any, is it thought the State will lose from the inability of the parties to pay? What is the current price at which Salt is generally sold at the Saline? I desire that you will collect as much of the rent which may be due as possible, and pay it into the State Treasury previous to the meeting of the Legislature.

You will be pleased to acknowledge the receipt of this letter, and accept the assurances of my respect.

EDWARD COLES

GENL. WILLIS HARGRAVE, Superintendent of the Gallatin Co.  
Salines

Copy of a Letter to the Govr. of Tennessee.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

September 30, 1826

*Sir*—On the 25th. of Nov. last I transmitted to you by mail an authenticated copy of an indictment found by the Grand Jury in Union County in this State against Peter Winn for the murder of Anglin and at the same time made a demand on you for his arrest and surrender as a fugitive from justice. Not having since heard from you, I should have conceived it my duty long since to have written to you upon the subject, under the impression that my letter had miscarried, had I not heard from the Prosecuting Attorney of Union County that you had received it. Having been disappointed in hearing from you and being informed that Peter Winn was recently seen in Tennessee, and that he is now residing there, it becomes my duty to call your attention to the requisition which I made on you, in pursuance of the constitution and Laws of the United States, for his arrest and

surrender to the authority of this State, that he may be made to answer to its violated laws for the murder of one of its Citizens.

I am with great respect & esteem yours

EDWARD COLES

GOVERNOR CARROLL

Copy of a Letter to Henry Eddy Esq<sup>1</sup>.

VANDALIA, Nov. 3, 1826

*Dear Sir*—Thomas L. Posey has been appointed Cashier of the Branch of the State Bank at Shawneetown and as the public service requires him to enter upon the duties of the trust as soon as possible, I have requested him to give his bond to you for your approval. I have to ask the favor of you to examine it and see that it is [in] due form, and that the security is fully equal to the amount the law requires him to give. On your giving him a certificate that his bond is a legal and adequate one, and that you had forwarded it to me to this place he will enter upon the duties of cashier.

With great respect I am &c &c

EDWARD COLES

H. EDDY Esq. Circuit Attorney, Shawneetown

Copy of a Letter to Richd. Rush Esq. Secretary of the Treasury of the U. S.

VANDALIA, ILLS., Nov. 15, 1826

*Sir*—Being aware that silk had been grown and manufactured many years since by some of the French inhabitants of Illinois, I transmitted copies of your Letter containing inquiries on that subject, to several of the oldest and most intellent [*sic*] of the first settlers of this country. To their remissness, and to no want of attention on my part, you must attribute my delay in

1. Henry Eddy: born, 1798, in Vermont; 1818, moved to Shawneetown, Illinois, where he edited "The Illinois Emigrant;" 1820-22, represented Gallatin County in General Assembly; 1822-24, edited anti-convention paper, "The Illinois Gazette;" 1824, presidential elector; 1826, circuit attorney, Shawneetown; 1830, prosecuting attorney; January 14, 1835, elected judge of the Third Circuit Court, but resigned February 11, 1835; 1846-48, represented Gallatin County in General Assembly; June 29, 1849, died; in politics Eddy was a Democrat.—Reynolds, John, *My Own Times*, Illinois, 1855.

answering your letter of the 29th of July last. And I regret to say, that old age, aversion to writing, a disposition to procrastinate, or some other cause, has prevented nearly all of them from answering even to this late period. I shall therefore be enabled to afford you very little information in answer to your enquiries in relation to the growth and manufacture of silk.

In consequence of this disappointment I can only state in general, that it is not believed that the silk worm is a native of Illinois. Eggs from which silk worms have been reared, have been procured from different places. Col. Aug. Choteau<sup>1</sup>, whose character must be known to you, and who has resided in this country since 1763, and who is better acquainted with it than other person of my acquaintance, and is not less distinguished for his great worth and good sense, than for his unusual talent for observation, informs me that he procured eggs in 1804 from Canada, "all of which hatched, and the worms were fed indiscriminately on red or white mulberry leaves." "The cocoons were furnished with fine silk, which was pronounced, by a gentleman who had followed the silk business in Europe, to possess all the good qualities desired in manufactures." After cultivating silk for several years Col. C. discontinued it in consequence of the ill health of his wife. He asserts that from his own experience, and his knowledge of the country he has no doubt but what silk could be grown and manufactured advantageously in Illinois.

There are several varieties of the Black, Red, & White Mulberrys which are indigenous, and which abound, and grow rapidly, and to considerable sise, [*sic*] on the sandy and light loam soils of Illinois.

With great respect and esteem I am &c

EDWARD COLES

RICHARD RUSH Esq. Secretary of the Treasury of the United States

1. Auguste Chouteau, Sen.: was born in New Orleans, August 14, 1750; accompanied Laclede to Illinois in 1763 and was one of the founders of St. Louis; at death of Laclede in 1778, Chouteau became the most important citizen of the flourishing village, his chief interest being the fur trade. After the transference of Louisiana to the United States he filled several important positions. He died in St. Louis, February 29, 1829.—Dillon, F. L., *Annals of St. Louis*, St. Louis, 1888, Vol. II., 164; Houck, Louis, *History of Missouri*, Chicago, 1908, Vol. II., 4, n. 12.

Copy of a Letter to George Graham Esq. Comr. of the Genl. Land Office.

## STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

November 30, 1826

*Sir*—Agreeably to the notice I gave you in my letter of July 20th,<sup>1</sup> of my intention to select a portion of the Seminary Lands in the district of country offered for sale in September last, at Springfield, I have reported to the Register & Receiver of that Land Office and desired to have reserved from sale as a part of the land granted to this State by congress for the use of a Seminary of learning, Sections One, Twelve, Thirteen, Twenty-four, Twentyfive & Thirtysix in Township Seventeen North of Range Seven West.

Of the 36 Sections of land granted by congress to this State for the use of a Seminary of Learning the following Sections have been selected at different times and reserved from sale viz:

Sections	Township	Range
1, 2, 11, 12, 13	15 North	11 West
1, 30, 32	16 “	5 “
4, 5	16 “	6 “
30, 31	17 “	4 “
25, 36	17 “	5 “
18, 19, 29, 30, 31, 32	17 “	6 “
1, 12, 13, 24, 25, 36	17 “	7 “

Making in all 26 Sections. The remaining Ten (10.) Sections will be reported to you as soon as they are selected.

With respect I am Yours &c &c

EDWARD COLES

GEO. GRAHAM Esq. Comr. of the Genl. Land Office, Washington City

1, See *ante*, p. 105.

### CHAPTER III.

EXECUTIVE LETTER-BOOK OF NINIAN EDWARDS, 1826-1830<sup>1</sup>

VANDALIA, DECEMBER 6th. A. D. 1826  
GOVERNOR EDWARDS

Copy of a letter to the Cash. of the State Bank of Illinois.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

December 8, 1826

*Sir*—You will please to transmit to this department as soon as possible, [*sic*] the information asked of you by my predecessor in his letter of the 25th. August last.<sup>2</sup>

Respectfully Your obt Serv.

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois

Copy of a Letter to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 8, 1826

The Auditor of Public accounts is requested to furnish this department as soon as practicable, with a statement exhibiting the aggregate amount of warrants issued during the years 1823, 1824, 1825 & 1826 respectively, and the actual expenses of each of those years respectively, which were discharged by those warrants.

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copy of a letter to the Cashier of the Branch Bank at Edwardsville.

(Circular)

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

December 9th, 1826

*Sir*—Entertaining no doubt of your competency to understand the charter of the Bank of which you are Cashier I have to

1. These letters from Governor Ninian Edwards supplement his correspondence printed in the Chicago Hist. Society's *Collections*, III., and in the *History of Illinois and Life of Ninian Edwards*, by Ninian W. Edwards. In the foot notes all letters that have been printed in these volumes are noted.

2. See *ante*, p. 107.



*Herman Edwards*





request as prompt a Report from you as possible upon the following questions:

Have any loans been made contrary to law, and if so, in what cases?

Have any expenses been incurred which are not provided for by the Charter, and if so, what are they?

Have any part of the funds of the Bank been appropriated contrary to the Charter, and if so in what cases?

Are there any cases of loans upon Mortgages, in which according to your own opinion, the Mortgaged property at the time of the loan, was not worth double its amount in good money, and if so what was the probable value of the Mortgaged property at that time, and what would it now probably sell for?

Have any judgments been rendered upon Mortgages for any less sum than the amount actually borrowed and if so in what cases and what would the mortgaged premises probably sell for.

Are there any transactions of the Bank or any officer thereof or any person employed for it in any way whatever, that you consider unwarranted by the charter, or other wise improper? if so what are they?

Your Answer as far as you can give it is expected immediately, and the ballance of the information as soon as possible, not delaying the communication of any one part of it longer than you find absolutely necessary.

Your Most obt Servant

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copies of the above circular were addressed to the Cashiers of the Principal Bank and its branches on the 9th Decm 1826.

Copy of a letter to Principal Bank Cashier.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 15th, 1826

*Sir*—In my letter of the 9th Inst I requested to be informed by you, whether any, and if any, what expenses had been incurred by the Bank of which you are Cashier, which were not provided for by the charter?

And whether any, and if any what part of the funds of the Bank had been appropriated contrary to the charter?

In your letter of the 11th Inst you refer me to a *Report of the Bank made at its last regular session and on file [in] the office of the Secretary of State* for an answer to these questions. From which it would seem to be inferable that it was your intention to state that no other expenses, or appropriations of the funds of the Bank within the scope of these questions had occurred; except those, mentioned in the Report referred to; which imbraces only the expenses for building the Bank house.

Lest however there may be some mistake in this inference, and as it is desirable to have the fullest and most accurate information on those subjects, and that as speedily as possible, I should be happy to know from you explicitly, whether the above mentioned inference is correct; and if otherwise that you will communicate as soon as you can any further information in regard to these matters that may be in your power.

I indulge the hope that you may soon find it convenient to furnish the information called for by my predecessor in his letter of the 25th of August last.

Very respectfully your most obt

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois

Copy of a letter to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 15th, 1826

*Sir*—Your report to this Department of yesterday is received. It does not, however, afford the information called for by letter of the 8th Inst. The object of that letter was to ascertain the loss upon Auditors warrants for the years therein mentioned 1st By the amount of the warrants, & 2d By the actual amount due in good mony [*sic*] which those warrants discharged. This information is desired as speedily as possible.

Very respectfully your obt servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copy of a letter to the Auditor.

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 21st, 1826

Sir—Your report of the 19th Inst is received. I can not imagine how it is that you make it appear that such large appropriations in species have been made, and the laws and documents which I have consulted, so far from removing increase the difficulty [*sic*] of comprehending it. It is not my object to give you any unnecessary trouble & therefore I will ask the necessary explanations for a single year.

You state the amount of the appropriation for the year 1825 in specie to be \$56,047.37. I therefore request a list of those appropriations with any references calculated to elucidate the extraordinary fact of such an amount of species expenses for a single year.

My object was to ascertain by a distinct tabular statement, the precise loss upon warrants for the years 1823, 4, 5, & 6. I am not satisfied that your report shows that loss. That there may be no more misapprehension, my inquiries, shall now be limited to single year. What was the precise loss on warrants and state paper issued and paid out in the year 1825? If your books are kept as I should presume they are, it ought not to take more than an hour to ascertain this fact. Let me however have it in your own way But I wish to know:

1st. The true amount of appropriations for that year *in specie*.

2. The amount in State paper, at the value of State paper, at the several periods when it was paid out in pursuance of those appropriations.

3. The amount of warrants paid out which were issued in reference to the value of State paper, and the cash demands upon the Treasury which those warrants discharged.

4. The aggregate loss upon State and warrants according to such mode of estimating it as you may think best calculated to ascertain it.

Very respectfully your mo obt Servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copy of a letter to the Cashier of the Bank.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

27th December, 1826

*Sir*—I wish to know whether the half yearly reports of the several branches of the State bank to the principal bank which have been made since the last regular session of the Legislature have been laid before the present General Assembly according to the requisitions of the 16th Section of the charter of the Bank.

If this has not already been done it [is] expected that it will not be necessarily delayed.

Very respectfully Your most obt servant

NINIAN EDWARDS

Cashier of the State Bank

Copy of a Letter to the Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

3rd January, 1827

*Sir*—I wish to know from you whether any payments have been made into the principal Bank by the Shawneetown Branch since the first of June last, and if so, what are the several amounts and respective dates.

Yr Mo Ob St.

NINIAN EDWARDS

Cashier of the St. Bank of Illinois

Copy of a Letter to the Cashier of the State Bank.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

4th January, 1827

*Sir*—You will please to inform me whether any and if any what payments have been made into the principal Bank by the Branches at Edwardsville, Brownsville and Palmyra respectively between the 30th June last and the 13th Ult. together with the dates of each respective payment. An early answer is requested.

Very respectfully Yr Mo Ob St.

NINIAN EDWARDS

To the Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois

Copy of a letter to the Cashier of the State Bank.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Jany 5th, 1827

*Sir*—You will please to furnish me as soon as practicable a statement of all the State paper now in the Bank which is required to be burnt showing how much thereof has been received by the principal Bank? how much from each branch, and the times when received by the principal Bank and from the branches respectively.

Very respectfully Your most obt servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copy of a letter to the Auditor.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

6th January, 1827

*Sir*—You will please to forward me a list of such members and Officers of the General Assembly as are returned to your office as defaulting debtors to the Bank or any of its Branches and the amounts respectively.

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copy of a letter to the Cashier of State Bank.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

12th January, 1827

*Sir*—If you can do so, I will thank you to inform me, when it will probably be convenient to you to give the information requested by my letter of the 5th Inst.

Very respectfully Sir Your mos ob servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copy of letter to the President and Directors of the Bank.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 12th, 1827

*Gent*—Having acertained [*sic*] from the Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois that the requisition of the 16th Section of the act

establishing the State Bank of Illinois have not been complied with at any time during the present session of the Genl Assembly and the constitution of the State having required that the Gov shall take care that the laws be faithfully executed I have to request that all the half yearly reports of the several branches to the principal Bank, which have been received by the latter since the last regular session of the Genl Assembly be forthwith laid before the present General Assembly agreeably to law.

Very respectfully Gent Your mo ob sr

NINIAN EDWARDS

The President and Directors of the State Bank of Illinois

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 19th, 1827

*Sir*—Having learnt that you have publicly boasted of having evaded my calls on you for information &c and not knowing how to account for your delay in furnishing that which was asked by my letter of the 5th Inst I can only say that if I cannot get it before Monday next I must do without it and refer the subject to the Legislature.

I hope however that you may find it convenient to inform me in the course of this day whether you made and have preserved lists of the burnt notes as required by the 3d section of the "Act supplementary to an act establishing the State Bank Illinois" approved January 10, 1825.

I would also be glad to be informed by you as soon as may suit your convenience whether the President & Directors of the principal Bank appointed an agent under the 8th Section of the said act to examine the Branch at Brownsville? Who that agent was? What he was allowed for the service by the Principal Bank? Whether any other person was employed by that agent to examine the Branch? And how much was paid the person so employed? And how the payment was made?

Respectfully yr Mo Obt Ser

NINIAN EDWARDS

Copy of a letter to the Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 20th, 1827

*Sir*—The date of your conversations to which I alluded in my letter of yesterday was prior to the case to which I understood you as refering them. My object however is only to obtain from you such information as my duty required me to call for. The promptitude with which you answered my calls of yesterday leads me to hope that no future avoidable delays in such cases will take place. I therefore shall expect as early an answer as you may find convenient to the following questions.

What amount of State paper *do the Books of the Bank* show to have been collected by the principal Bank from the debtors between the 10th January 1825 and the 18 June following?

What amount of State paper was received by the principal Bank from each Branch respectively within the same period including the amount of unloaned State paper drawn from the Branch at Palmyra?

Respectfully sir yr mo ob ser

NINIAN EDWARDS

Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois

Copy of a letter to Col John Ewing.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Feb. 24th, 1827

*Sir*—Herewith you will receive orders for an election of Major General to Supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Major Genl Hargrave which orders you will please to serve upon those to whom they are directed, and transmit to me at Belleville your account for this service.

Your Most obt

NINIAN EDWARDS

COL JOHN EWING Franklin County

Copy of a letter to the Treasurer.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

March 1, 1827

*Sir*—You will please to furnish this Department as soon after the first day of next month as maybe practicable a Statement of the amount of money that maybe then in the Treasury to meet the demands apon it.

Respectfully

NINIAN EDWARDS

The State Treasurer

Copy of a letter to the Auditor.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

March 1, 1827

*Sir*—You will please to furnish to this Department as soon after the first day of May next as practicable, a Statement of all the Auditors warrants which may remain unredeemed on that day, all that are authorized to be issued by the late General Assembly; and those which are issuable on that day to pay the present quarter years expenses, so, as to show as near [as] may [be] the demands against the State which are authorized, or shall have accrued at that time.

Respectfully

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Auditor of public accounts

Copy of a letter to the Cashier of the State Bank.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

March 1, 1827

*Sir*—You will please to furnish to this Department as soon as may suit your convenience, a statement of the amount of Auditors warrants and State papers respectively which have been collected by the principal Bank from its debtors between the 9 of December and the 12th day of February 1827.

And also a Statement of the amount of Auditors warrants and State paper respectively, which have been received by the



principal Bank from the Branches respectively within the above mentioned period.

Respectfully

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois

(Circular)

To Branch Cashiers.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

March 1, 1827

*Sir*—You will please transmit to this Department a Statement of all payments made by the branch of which you are cashier to the principal Bank, between the 9th December 1824 and this date, specifying the time when each was made, and how much thereof was made in Auditor's warrants, how much in Statepaper of the old issue and how much in reissued paper.

As to all future payments into the principal Bank you will please to furnish this Department with a Statement thereof distinguished as above as soon as practicable after such payments may be made.

Respectfully

NINIAN EDWARDS

ATLAS, 31st March 1827<sup>1</sup>

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—Having this morning, seen a final decision of congress for the donation of lands to this State in favor of the contemplated canal—Beg leave to ask of your Excellency, your interest in my favour as an actual performer in its construction. my abilities will be ascertained by ocular demonstration. I have been some years in this State and have never put myself in the way of public characters, [*sic*] but, if I would be put in some conspicuous point of view in this business it would be very agreeable. From what I hear even from your inimies, [*sic*] it would be a prudent step for your Excellency to call together the Legislature, as soon, as your Excellencies pleasure may dictate.

1. This letter has been transferred from volume III. of the Executive Letter-Books.

Pray God—Send me a receipt for curing my children of the extention of the Spleen. With Sentiments of the highest consideration I am

Your Excellency devoted Servant & friend,

ABNER YOUNG

His Excellencys NINIAN EDWARDS, Governor of Illinois

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

July 27, 1827

THE AUDITOR OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS

*Sir*—You will please to furnish this department as soon after the first day of September next, as may be practicable, a report

1. Of the aggregate amount of Lands listed in your books, on the first day of next month, for the present year's taxes.

2. The proportion thereof included in the Military district.

3. The proportion thereof lying in all other parts of the State.

4. The aggregate amount of taxes due upon the lands so listed for the present year.

5. The aggregate amount of arrearages due upon them for former years.

6. The number of quarter sections of Military bounty lands on which the taxes of the present year, and arrearages of former years, shall have been paid, on or before the first day of August next.

7. The number of quarter sections of Military bounty lands on which the taxes of the present year, & arrearages of former years, shall remain unpaid, at the expiration of the first day of August next.

8. The number of acres lying in all other parts of the State, on which the taxes of the present year, and arrearages of former years shall have been paid on or before the first day of August next.

9. The number of acres of the last aforesaid lands on which the taxes of the present year, and arrearages of former

years, shall remain unpaid at the expiration of the first day of August next.

The object of this call is to ascertain the precise amount of interest that shall accrue to the State (not a cent of which shall be lost if in my power to prevent it) and another, that of the present year's revenue.

Very Respectfully I am sir Yr Mo obt Servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

July 27th, 1827

THE STATE TREASURER

*Sir*—You will please to furnish to this Department, as soon after the first day of September next, as may be practicable, a report:

1. Of the aggregate amount of taxes for the present year and arrearages of former years, which shall have been paid into the Treasury, at the expiration of the first day of August next.

2. The proportion thereof for lands in the military district.

3. The proportion thereof for lands lying in all other parts of the State.

4. The number of quarter Sections of Military bounty lands, on which arrearages shall have been so paid, & the amount of such arrearages.

5. The number of quarter sections of the last aforesaid lands, on which the present year's taxes shall have been so paid, and the amount of such taxes.

6. The number of acres of land, lying in all other parts of the State, on which arrearages shall have been so paid, and the amount of such arrearages.

7. The number of acres of the last aforesaid lands on which the present year's taxes shall have been so paid, & the amount of such taxes.

Among the objects of this call, is the precise ascertainment of the interest that may accrue to the State, and of the amount

of the present year's revenue, for which latter object other calls will hereafter be indispensable, and I flatter myself from the specimens I have, with so much pleasure seen, of your arrangements and attention, it will be no fault of yours, if they are not promptly and satisfactorily answered.

Very Respectfully I am Sir, Yr Mo Obt St.

NINIAN EDWARDS

BARBOURSVILLE, Sepr. 16, '27.

*Sir*—In answer to yours of the 20th ult.<sup>1</sup> I have to reply that the most recent intelligence which I have received justifies a belief that the prompt and efficient demonssrakens [*sic*] of force on the late Theatre of Indian hostilities will have given our frontier settlements ample security for the — In addition I have directed the reoccupation of the Prarie du Chien and Chicago. Moreover Genl. Gaines is charged with full powers to adopt whatever measures he thinks the occasion requires.

The power of a Governor of a State is unquestionable as to the calling out of the Militia when their services are made neccessary by an emergency. I presume the steps you have adopted were proper. To meet the expences you have incurred, the interposition of Congress is neccessary to which body the the subject will be referred.

Meanwhile the amount regularly authenticated should be transmitted for the purpose its being subjected to the consideration of that body. At this distance with the ever varying circumstances incedent [*sic*] to the purposes of Savages it is impossible to give specific instructions as to the course proper to be pursued with the full powers and instructions to General Gaines and the official power of your Excellency. I will hope that in any event nothing seriously disastrous can befall [*sic*] our frontiers.

I offer your Excellency my respects

JAMES BARBOUR

His Excellency GOVR. EDWARDS

1. Printed in Ninian W. Edwards's *Hist. of Ill. and Life of Ninian Edwards* (Springfield, 1870), p. 350, and in Chi. Hist. Society's *Collections*, 111., 298.

## DEPARTMENT OF WAR

October 9th, 1827

*Sir*—A temporary and indispensable attention to my private affairs at Barboursville has prevented me from answering your several letters of the 4th and 13th<sup>1</sup> ulto., at an earlier day.

I trust my letter to you of the 10th in answer to your letter before that period, will have satisfied you that I at least am exempt from any intentional disrespect, as it is my duty so it is my inclination to treat with due respect the constituted authorities of the States.

Believing that on the harmony between the parts and the head of our complicated institutions, their duration mainly depends. I have invariably endeavoured to preserve it by the most conciliatory measures. If a contrary course has been pursued by any inferior officers I should be prompt to rebuke them. My last intelligence from Prairie du Chien still justifies the expectation that the danger of an Indian war has past by. The two murderers [*sic*] in the vicinity of that place have voluntarily surrendered themselves. I trust the others will be given up in the same way. These expectations, however, before this time will have been realized, or war will have commenced. In the the latter event the suggestions of my letter of the 10th ulto I trust will have sufficed to produce corresponding measures to the occasion.

On the collateral subject, the removal of the Indians occupying ceded lands, I have instructed Gov. Cass (to whom I have communicated so much of your letter as relates to the subject,) to take such measures as will fulfill your wishes with the least possible delay consistent with humanity, or if insuperable difficulties present themselves, to report to me forthwith thereon.

With great respect I have the honor to be

Your Obt Servt.

JAMES BARBOUR

To His Excellency N. EDWARDS, Govr. of Illinois

1. These letters are printed in Ninian W. Edwards's *Hist. of Ill. and Life of Ninian Edwards* (Springfield, 1870), pp. 351, 354.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR  
OFF: INDIAN: AFFAIRS  
10th Oct. 1827

*Sir*—I have the honour to transmit to you by the direction of the Secretary of War the enclosed extract of a letter from Gov. Edwards, and call your attention to the correction of the greivance of which he complains by an immediate removal of the Indians referred to from the ceded lands and confining them to their own boundaries. A removal of the Peoria subagency to some other and more Suitable point, would perhaps much facilitate the accomplishment of this object: if so, I am directed to authorise you to adopt that course.

Should insuperable difficulties to the accomplishment of the views of Governor Edwards exist, the Secretary directs that you report them forthwith to the department.

Very respectfully Sir &c.

(Signed)

SAML. S. HAMILTON

To Genl. WM. CLARK, Supt. Ind: Affr: St. Louis

BROWNSVILLE BRANCH BANK  
Oct. 25, 1827

*Dr. Sir*—In answer to your enquiry whether any loans have been made from this Bank on the mortgage of any land or lands purchased of the United States which had not been patented or fully paid for, I answer that I have no recollection of any such loan having been made nor do I discover from the papers of the Bank that any such have been made. But I find the following order made by the Board of directors of the Bank on the 6th of July 1821, at which meeting of the board were present W. M. Alexander<sup>1</sup> Prest Abner Field<sup>2</sup>, Jos. Duncan<sup>3</sup>, & Wm. McFatridge<sup>4</sup> from Union Jackson and Johnson Counties,

1. William M. Alexander: came to Illinois previous to 1818, where he practiced medicine and acted as an agent for the proprietors of the town of America, in Alexander County; 1820–22, represented Alexander County in General Assembly; 1822–24, served as speaker of the House of Representatives in the General Assembly; 1824, unsuccessful candidate for United States Senate; removed to Kaskaskia, then South, where he died.—*Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois*.

2. Abner Field: January 5, 1818, appointed by Governor Edwards clerk, recorder and justice of the peace of Union County; January 13, 1818, clerk of the Circuit and County

Absent Edward Cowles [*sic*] director for Randolph County, to wit Abner Field the Director from Union Obtained a Loan of \$1000 on this condition that he receive \$500 from the Bank and that the remainder be retained in the Bank until he produce evidence to the Cashier that he has paid to the Government all monies due on a tract of land of 145 acres, in a mortgage of the said Field set forth, and subsequently to wit on the 29th of October 1821, I find the following order. Ordered that Abner Field the Director from Union receive an accommodation of three hundred Dollars and afterwards to wit on the 22 of October 1822 I also found the following order to wit. Ordered that Abner Field have a loan of \$300 on the property he has already mortgaged, which last order is in the hand writing of Col. Field, the minutes of that meeting of the board which was Composed of Wm. M. Alexander Jos. Duncan Ed. Cowles and Ab. Field were made up in the hand writing of the Prest. Doct Alexander & Col Field as I was at that time very ill and unable to attend if my recollection serves me right—And from the two last orders made but more particularly from the last which was the last loan he obtained and the last time he met with the Directors of this Bank. I am inclined to think that the board must have considered the title to the property mortgaged good and complete And on the 20th of Augt 1823 the following order was made by the Board of directors Present Jos. Duncan Prest Edward Cowles & Richard M Young directors from Randolph and

Courts of Union County; May 1, 1818, resigned office of justice of the peace; 1823–27, state treasurer; 1826, unsuccessful candidate for state treasurer.—James, *Territorial Records*; Moses, John, *Illinois, Historical and Statistical*.

3. Joseph Duncan: born February 22, 1794, at Paris, Kentucky; (in the Territorial Records of Illinois, a Joseph Duncan was appointed September 30, 1814, lieutenant of the Second Regiment of St. Clair County; August 7, 1818, a justice of the peace of Madison County); 1818, settled at Fountain Bluff, Jackson County; 1823, commissioned major-general of the Illinois militia; 1824–26, state senator from Jackson County; 1827–34, congressional representative; 1828, married Elizabeth Caldwell Smith and moved to Jacksonville; 1831, appointed brigadier-general by Governor Reynolds; 1834–38, governor of Illinois; 1842, unsuccessful Whig candidate for governor; January 15, 1844, died at Jacksonville; in politics Duncan was first a Jacksonian Democrat and then a Whig.—Reynolds, John *My Own Times*, Illinois, 1855.

4. William McFatridge: appointed, January 14, 1817, justice of the peace of Pope County; January 13, 1818, appointed justice of the peace of Johnson County; 1818, represented Johnson County in Constitutional Convention; 1820–24, represented Johnson County in the General Assembly.—James, *Territorial Records*; Moses, John, *Illinois, Historical and Statistical*, Chicago, 1892.

Union County towit Ordered that Richd M Young late director elect from Union County receive the accommodation of \$750 that he is entitled to as Director when he gives such real estate as security as may be deemed sufficient by the board. On this order the money was afterwards payed out of the Bank and and shortly afterwards again, repaid to the Bank by Young. The following is the amount of loans made to each director and the amt of payments made by them respectively to wit. Wm M Alexander Prest \$1900.83 Abner Field Director from Union County \$1700 Wm McFatridge director from Johnson County \$750 Jos Duncan director for Jackson County \$1750 and an additional loan of \$250 as President. After the resignation of Wm M Alexander making in all \$2000. Edward Cowles director from Randolph County \$1750. And the following payments have been made by them respectively to wit. By Abner Field \$922. By Jos Duncan \$275 & Edward Cowles has made payments in full the examination in this case has been hasty. I will revise the Books and papers again & if I should have overlooked anything or made any mistake I will correct it so soon as discovered.

Respectfully Sir

Yr. Obt. Servt

RICHD. J. HAMILTON

Cash. of the Brownsville BranchBank

DEPARTMENT OF WAR

Nov. 21st, 1827

*Sir*—I have the honor of acknowledging the receipt of your communication of the 29 ultimo.

After advising you that I had called the attention of Gov. Cass as to the proper measures to be taken in regard to a removal of the Indians from the ceded lands in the State of Illinois, a communication was addressed by my derection to Genl. Clark superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis in relation to the same Subject, a copy of which I have the honor to enclose and remain

with great respect Your Obt. Sert.

JAMES BARBOUR

His Excellency NINIAN EDWARD Belleville Ill.



Copy of a letter from the Gov to the Cashier S B.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Decm. 10, 1827

*Sir*—You will please furnish me with a statement of the respective amounts collected by the State Bank, and paid into it by the respective Branches thereof, since the last burning of State papers, specifiing in each case, how much has been collected and paid as aforesaid in Auditors Warrants, old issued, and re-issued paper.

Very respectfully yr obt servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Cashier of of the State Bank of Illinois

Copy of a letter to the Cashier.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Dec. 11th, 1827

*Sir*—You will please furnish to this Department, a statement of the amount of Auditors Warrant other than those belonging to the school fund which are now in your possession as Cashier of the Bank of the State of Illinois.

Very respectfully Your most obt Servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

JAMES M DUNCAN<sup>1</sup> Cashier of the State Bank of Illinois

Copy of a letter to the Cashier.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

December 13, 1827

*Sir*—Apprehending from your former practice, that you may not intend to make a list of the numbers, letter, date, and amounts of the note of the State Bank, which are required to be burnt, during the present Session of the Supreme Court; and being required by the constitution to "*take care that the laws be faithfully executed*," I feel it my duty to call your attention to the act of the Legislature of the 10th Janr. 1825, which specifically enjoins that duty upon you, and to request that you will make the list thereby required.

1. James M. Duncan: served as clerk of the Supreme Court from 1819-41.

The intention of the Legislature in this requisition was, doubtless to identify the notes required to be burnt; and preserve the evidence thereof, so as to insure a faithful execution of the law, and prevent fraud upon the State. This is not the less necessary in regard to the notes now in existance, because lists have not been made and preserved of those that have been burnt. Nor did the law require that they should be made of all the notes which it directed to be burnt. It will be seen by an examination of the act itself, that it directed the notes then in the Bank to be burnt without any such precaution, and that it was only the notes thereafter to be received that were required to be listed. Whatever may be the amount now in the Bank, or hereafter to be received, this requisition must be considered as affording to that extent, the security contemplated by the Legislature. And I hope if it be impracticable for you from any cause whatever to list the whole of the notes, that you will at least, execute that duty as far as may be in your power.

Very respectfully I am Sir Your Ob Servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

Letter to the *Auditor*.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

10 Janr., 1828

*Sir*—Required by my duty to make myself minutely acquainted with the state of the public finances, and authorized for this purpose to call upon the Officers in the executive Department for the requisite information, I can but regret that my last call on you has remained so long unnoticed[sic]. Now renewing that requisition I have also to request that, as soon after the expiration[sic] of one week, after the termination of the present land sales for taxes as practicable, you will furnish me a statement exhibiting the amount of taxes paid between the first day of August last and the commencement of the said sales; the quantity of land on which the taxes then remained unpaid; the amount of the taxes on the same; the quantity sold for taxes, and on which taxes shall have (been) paid without sale, during the continuance

of the sales; the amount actually received for the same, at the expiration of one week after said sales; the amount of lands stricken off to the State during the said sales and the amount of the taxes on the same.

Very respectfully Sir Your Obt Servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

P S If lands offered on one day for sale should [not] then sell, I can not imagine any objection to offering them again at any time during the sales. It is an object that as faw [sic] as possible should be stricken off to the State. It would be right however that some certain time should be fixed and made known for reoffering them, and I should suppose the most suitable time would be to commence with them in this way, after all the other lands shall have been disposed of.

N EDWARDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

21 Jan., 1828

*Gentlemen*—Desirous of availing the State of your Services in the selection of those sections of land granted by Congress for the use of a Seminary of learning which have not been selected, I have to request that you will proceed to Vandalia and ascertain their number from the Secretary of State. If however any accident should prevent your receiving this information you will select Sixteen.

To do this you will proceed to the junction of the Fox and Illinois, and make the best selections you can within the following bounds viz: Beginning at the junction of the Rivers aforesaid, thence up Fox River to a point ten miles above its mouth, thence with the northern boundery of the survey to a point on Lake Michigan ten miles North of Chicago, thence with the lake to a point ten miles south of Chicago, thence to a point on the Kankakee ten miles above its mouth, and thence with the Kankakee and Illinois Rivers to the beginning.

These selections must be made in two ways. It has been required by the Treasury Department of the U. S. that every two sections should adjoin each other, the whole length of some one

line; but as I am determined to make an effort to obtain permission to select them in single sections, you will please prepare to report to me the best selections that can be made in both these ways.

None of the lands within these bounds are disposed of, and I trust you will not fail to select those which will be most valuable to the State for the purpose for which they have been granted.

You will please not mention any thing more of the object of your employment than what relates to the information you are to obtain in relation to the canal.

Your compensation will be two dollars and fifty cents per day for each of you, or its equivalent in state paper according [to] the rate prescribed by law.

Very respectfully Gentlemen Your mo ob servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, STATE OF ILLINOIS

28 Jan., 1828<sup>1</sup>

*Sir*—As the Legislature of this State will doubtless at its next Session make provision for commencing the canal to connect the Waters of the Illinois River & Lake Michigan, I beg leave, on behalf of the State, to request that a survey of a proper route for it may be made by some competent officer or officers of the Engineer Department of the U. S. A survey has already been made under the authority of this State but as the engineers employed were without that practical experience, which, the great importance of the object should command, and as the U. S. retaining every alternate section of land through which the canal is to pass, have a direct interest in its judicious execution in reference to the public domain the measure solicited [*sic*] seems not less demanded by the interest of the U. S. than of this State, and therefore I permit myself to hope it will be adopted. I will only add that this request cannot be granted in the course of the present year it will be too late to do it at a future period, because after

1. Transferred from volume III. of Executive Letter-Books,

its next Session, our Legislature will not again set for two years before which time I have no doubt the work will have progressed to far to admit of a change which might previously [have been] ascertained to be advisable.

I have the honor &c

NINIAN EDWARDS

HON. JAMES BARBOUR Sec. of War

WAR DEPARTMENT

Feb. 18, 1828<sup>1</sup>

*Sir*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 28 of last month, stating that as the Legislature of the State of Illinois will at its next Session make provision for commencing the canal to connect the waters of the Illinois River and Lake Michigan, You request, on behalf of the State, that a Survey of a proper route for the canal may be made by some competent officer or officers of the engineer department of the U. States, and particularly setting forth the interest which the U. States have in its judicious execution in reference to the public domain. The canal is one in which the U. States are highly interested, both as it regards the increased value which it would give to the public Lands, and the convenience and facility which it would afford in a military point of view in communicating and moving the means of defence from the Lakes to the Mississippi, and from the more settled country to the Lakes. It would therefore afford the department much pleasure in complying with your request if it shall be in its power to do so, and should Congress place the means at its disposal an officer or other Engineer will be directed in due season to fulfill the desire of the State over which you preside.

With great respect I am Sir, Your most obt Servant

JAMES BARBOUR

To His Excellency NINIAN EDWARDS Gov. of Illinois

1. Transferred from Volume III. of Executive Letter-Books.

## ENGINEER DEPARTMENT

WASHINGTON, May 25th, 1829<sup>1</sup>

TO HIS EXCELLENCY NINIAN EDWARDS Governor of Illinois  
Belleville

*Sir*—The Secretary of war has referred to this department your letter of the 1st instant relating to the survey of a route for the Illinois and the Michigan Canal, and in reply, I have the honor to inform you that the engagements of the officers under the controul of this department were such as to prevent the survey being made in the Spring, but arrangements have been entered into, for executing that object as early in the autumn as the climate will admit, which it is supposed will be about the 1st of October; & a sufficient force will be despatched to finish the survey in a short time.

I have the hon. to be Sir, very respectfully your obt Servant

C. GRATIOT

Brig. Genl.

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

June 26, 1828

*Sir*—In calling upon you, occasionally for information, in relation to the State of your department, I beg you to be assured that I am neither influenced by any suspicion to your prejudice; nor any unfriendly motives, towards you, on the contrary it will be with regret that I, at any time feel compelled to add to your very onerous duties. The call of official duties however must be respected, and in obedience to them, I have to request you to furnish me with the aggregate amount of all demands on the Treasury of every description whatever, on the first day of April last. a detailed report is not required, nothing more is, at present, wanting than the single aggregate.

Very respectfully Yr. mo. ob. St.

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Auditor of Public Accounts

1. Transferred from volume III. of Executive Letter-Books.

## DEPARTMENT OF WAR

7th July, 1828

TO HIS EXCELLENCY N. EDWARDS, Governor of Illinois.

*Sir*—General Clark Supt. of Indian affairs at St Louis, has communicated to this Department copies of your correspondence with him and his answer, touching the removal of the Indians yet remaining in Illinois; also of certain talks with those Indians relating to the same subject. It appearing from the latter that all those Indians are preparing to leave Illinois, except the band of the Kickapoo Prophet, and that this band is pledged by its chief to remove by the 25 of May next, it is hoped that no farther cause of dissatisfaction will arise requiring force to compel the removal of this fragment at an earlier day. It is characteristic of these people to be slow, and their claims upon our forbearance and liberality, will not I am sure be least upon your Excellency who knows so well the nature of those relations which exist between us, and those unfortunate people.

That no means may be left untried to accomplish your Excellency's wishes in regard to this removal Genl. Clark is instructed to use such from time to time as he may suppose will be most likely to accomplish that object.

I have the honor to be very respectfully yr. Obt. Servt.

PETER B. PORTER

## DEPARTMENT OF WAR

22d July, 1828

TO HIS EXCELLENCY NINIAN EDWARD Governor of Illinois.

*Sir*—In reply to your letter of the 17 ulto. allow me to refer you to mine of the 7 inst. and to renew the expression of the hope, that since the Indians have agreed [sic] to remove at the time named to you in my last, you will consider it, under all the circumstances best to indulge them. It will be the business of the Department at the expiration of that term to see that they fulfill their promise.

With great respect I have the honor to be Yr obt Servt

P. B PORTER

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

27 August 1828

*Sir*—If I understood you correctly in our conversation in reference to a quietus which you this day gave William A Beaird Esq late Sheriff of St Clair County, he had not paid over according to law the revenue which he had collected for the state; that you had not charged him with the per cent required by law, for his failure so to pay and that your quietus was not intended to embrace the per cent so allowed nor any part thereof. You will please inform me when he paid you, the taxes due to the State for the year 1826, what amount was due? & how much he paid? I understood you to say that the commissioners Book was not returned to you according to Law, but that Mr Beaird had returned to you a transcript of it. As it seems to me, that he should at least, have been charged with the one pr cent a week, from the time he deposited the said transcript with you, I would be glad to be informed when that was.

You will please transmit your answer to this department as soon as possible, if it should be necessary, to act upon it, it will occur to you, that the information asked may be necessary as soon as it can be furnished by you.

Very respectfully Yr. Mo. ob. St

NINIAN EDWARDS

ELIJAH C. BERRY Esq. Auditor &amp;c.

Copy of a letter to the President and Directors.

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

October 1, 1828

*Gentlemen*—You will please furnish this Department, as soon as may suit your convenience, with the respective amount of Auditors warrants; reissued and cut notes, and notes that have not been reissued; which may be in, and belong to the Bank, at the time you may make the Report hereby requested, And also a list of all notes and mortgages belonging to the bank on which the instalments due have not been paid for the last and the present year respectively.

I have the honor to be Very respectfully Gentlemen

Your Mo obt St

NINIAN EDWARDS



Circular letter to Attory. Genl. and States Attorney.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

October 1, 1828

*Sir*—You will please transmit to this Department as soon as you may find it convenient a list of all the notes and Mortgages of the State Bank of Illinois, or any of its branches which have been placed in your hands for collections and a Statement exhibiting the amount Collected by, or settled with you in each case without suit, the legal proceedings that have been had, and the amount paid to or settled with you in each case in which suits have been instituted, the cases (if any such there be) in which collections have been made by any public officer or officers, who have not paid over the same, the amount paid over by you to the said Bank or any of its Branches; A specification of all notes and Mortgages remaining in your hands (if any such there be) on which neither collections have been made, nor suits instituted, and the causes that may have prevented collections in each case.

A tabular Statement if agreeable to you would be most acceptable.

Very respectfully Sir Your Mo. Ob. St.

NINIAN EDWARDS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

16th december, 1828

*Sir*—Having selected the following Sections Of land for the use of a seminary of learning for this State. I have to request that patents may be transmitted for them, Viz. Section No. 10 & 11 of Township 33 North Range 3 east of the third principal Meridian Sections 21, 22, 29 and 32 of Township 34 North Range 4 east of the 3d principal Meridian. Sections 30 & 31 of Township 35 North Range 6 east of the 3d principal Meridian and Sections 4 and 9 of Township 39 North Range 14 east of the 3d principal meridian.

I have the honor to be Very Respectfully Sir

Yr. Mo. Ob. Sert

NINIAN EDWARDS

Resolved<sup>1</sup> by the House of Representatives that the Governor of this State be requested to communicate to this branch of the General Assembly all the information he has in his possession from the Secretary of War relative to the Surveying and examination of the route of the proposed canal to connect the waters of Lake Michigan with the Illinois River.

WM. LEE D. EWING Clk.

House of Representatives

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

In compliance with a resolution of the House of Representatives requesting all the information in possession of the Governor from the Department of the Secretary of War relative to the surveying & examination of the route of the proposed canal to connect the waters of Lake Michigan with the Illinois River, I herewith transmit to the House, copies of all the correspondence in the Executive department on that subject

NINIAN EDWARDS

Dec. 1828

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

8 Jan'y 1829

GEORGE GRAHAM Esq Commissioner of the Genl Land Office

*Sir*—There being a material variance between your report to the last General Assembly, in regard to the School fund, and that with which you furnished me, at the present Session, I have to request you to furnish me, for the use of the General Assembly with as exact amount current of the School fund from the receipt of the first sum to that of the last.

very respectfully your mo. obt Servt

N. EDWARDS

E. C. BERRY Esq.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

January 24, 1829

*Sir*—The Legislature, at its Session which ended on yesterday, have made provisions for commencing the Illinois and

1. Transferred from Volume III. of Executive Letter-Books.

Michigan Canal. It is therefore very desirable that the Lands granted to the State, for that purpose, should be selected as soon as practicable. I hope it may be found convenient to take immediate measures for that object, and shall be happy to hear from you on the subject.

I have the honor to be very respectfully Sir.

Your mo. obed. Servt.

NINIAN EDWARDS

TO GEORGE GRAHAM ESQR. Commissr of the Genl Land Office

#### EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

The People of the State of Illinois to Nathaniel Buchmaster, Sherrieff of Madison County, Greeting: whereas his Excellency John Forsythe Governor of the State of Georgia has, in pursuence of the act of Congress entitled "An act respecting fugitives from Justice, & persons escaping from the service of their masters" passed 12 February 1793 demanded of the Governor of this State, Willaby Cason & James McGaffey Both of Madison County as fugitives from the Justice of the State of Georgia, & has transmitted to this Department a legally authenticated copy of an indictment formed by the Grand Jury of the County of Clark in the State of Georgia charging the said Williby Cason & James McGaffey with having on the 20th Oct. 1827 fraudently passed altered Bank bills, as genuine ones to a certain Andrew Graham, I Ninian Edwards Governor of the State of Illinois, in the name of the people thereof do hereby command you to arrest, safely keep and deliver the said Willaby Cason & James McGaffey to Abner Graham who is authorised by the Govenor of Georgia to receive them on his paying to you the expences of their arrest and detention. In testimony of which I have hereunto Subscribed my name & caused the seal of the State to be affixed this 28 March 1829.

NINIAN EDWARDS

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, May 4, 1829

*Sir*—Agreeably to the provisions of the law for the distribution of the acts of Congress, among the States and Territories of the United States, an agent is charged with the delivery to the Executive of Illinois to be deposited in such fixed or convenient place, in each county or other subordinate [*sic*] civil division of the State, as the Executive or Legislature shall deem most conducive to the general information of the People, “forty two copies of the acts of the 2d Session of the 20th Congress.” An acknowledgment of this receipt is respectfully requested.

I have the honor to be very respectfully, Sir,

Your obt. Servant.

M. VAN BUREN

To his Excellency the Gov of Illinois

In addition to the abovementioned acts of Congress, the same agent is charged with 3 copies of Gordon's Digest of the Laws of the U.S. and 3 sets of the documents of the 1st Session of the 20th Congress for the use of the Executive and branches of the Legislature.

ROCKY ISLAND  
22 May, 1829<sup>1</sup>

*Sir*—I have to acquaint you that I was visited yesterday by all the principal Sauk Indians now at their Village on Rocky River (Keocuck and principal Braves excepted) on the subject of their land where their Village is on Rocky River.

Three Sauk Indians spoke very fiercely on the subject and said the land was theirs, that they never sold the Land, that this Land contained the bones of their ancestors, and would not give it up: that they had defended it against all your power during the late war, and would again defend it as long as they existed; that they had formed an alliance with the Chippeways, Ottoways, Pottowatomies, Kickapoos & Menomonies who were ready to assist them at any time in defending their country

1. Transferred from Volume III. of Executive Letter-Books.

against any force whatever: A number of Chippeways, Ottoways and Pottowatomies with some Kickapoos were present and assented to what the Sauk Indians had said. Keocuck with some of his Braves were on the Island at the time of the Council, & told my Interpreter after all was over that the Sauks who spoke did not know what they were saying, which was the reason he would have have nothing to do with their talk.

It appears that yesterday some of the Settlers commenced ploughing up a patch of ground belonging to a Sauk Indian (who stands next to Keocuck among the Braves) when on seeing the whites ploughing his ground, he wished to prevent them, telling them he was going to plant his corn there himself. One of the white men struck him with a bean pole, & drove him away: This is only the beginning of more serious consequences which must happen when the Indians get any whiskey during the summer months from below.

I have done everything in my power to get the Indians to remove their own Lands, but the Black Hawk with a few others are the Indians who are making all this fuss. The stabbing Chief Pishkenawer, and all the influential Indians have gone to their own Country during last month to a new Village, and there are some going daily from Rocky River.

Those who have planted corn will remain & they will be few in number to the whole population of the Socks.

23rd Keocuck called on me this afternoon alone, and told me that the Indians now at Rocky River did not like him, and his intention was to go down to the Ioway River to reside, but that the head chiefs, who are now at Ioway River directed him to remain at Rocky River to keep things in order if possible, and that he must obey the Chiefs, otherwise him and those of his family now here would have been at their new village at Ioway River long since. That he had succeeded in preventing two partisans (who have been fasting for the last winter) from going to war.

Keocuck appears to be much dejected, from his Chiefs compelling him to stay at Rocky River, as part of his large family is already at Ioway River, indeed he sees the necessity

that the Indians should abandon their old village at Rocky River and live on their own Lands.

Respectfully I remain, Your Obdt. Servt.

THOMAS FORSYTH<sup>1</sup>

GENRL. WILLIAM CLARK, Supt. Ind. Affairs St. Louis

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

May 28, 1829

*Sir*—You will please furnish to this department, as soon after the 30th June next as practicable, a statement of the amount of Auditors Warrants and State papers which should on this day, be in the public treasury, together with an estimate of the proportion of the latter, which you may think it safe to burn, and that which you may deem it necessary to retain to meet the current demands upon it for the succeeding three months.

A law of the last session of the General Assembly render [ed] this information indispensable, and as delay on your part to furnish it, would subject several of the public officers to unnecessary inconvenience your prompt compliance is confidently expected.

Very Respectfully Your Most Obt Servent

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Auditor of Public Accounts

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

May 28th, 1829

*Sir*—You will please furnish to this department as soon after the 30<sup>th</sup> June next as practicable, a statement exhibiting the respective amounts of Auditors Warrants and state paper

1. Thomas Forsythe: born December 5, 1771, in Detroit; 1793, left Detroit and entered into Indian trade; 1809, settled at Peoria; May 4, 1809, *dedimus* issued to him at Peoria by Governor Edwards, authorizing him to administer the necessary oaths of office to the officers of St. Clair County; August 8, 1811, appointed justice of the peace of St. Clair County; April 20, 1818, appointed Indian agent for the Missouri Territory by President Madison; October 29, 1833, died on farm near St. Louis.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

which may on that day be in the public Treasury together with your opinion of the probable amount of the latter which should be retained to satisfy the demands upon it for the succeeding three months.

Very Respectfully Your most Obt Servant

NINIAN EDWARDS

The Treasurer of the State of Illinois

SUPERINTENDANCY INDN. AFFAIRS

ST LOUIS, July 4th, 1829

THOMAS FORSYTHE ESQR. Indian Agent.

*Sir*—I received your Letter of the 21st ulto; and regret to learn that the Foxes have killed the Sioux on the head of Ioway River; as I was urging the Sioux to peace, and the Socks and principal men of the Foxes had manifested a wish for peace and the restoration of tranquility.

This day I received an answer to my Letter to the Secretary of War, on the subject of the white people settling in and about the Sock and Fox Village with which I had enclosed the talk of a part of the talks of a part of the Sock Chiefs, and the petition of the White Settlers. I am notified that "In regard to the Sock and Fox Indians, it is expected" that they will conform to the stipulation of the Treaty of the 3d November 1804 "and as confirmed by that of the 13th May 1816." They moreover asked indulgence for the last year, to remain and gather their corn in Illinois, and promised upon doing this, to go. The Governor of Illinois was written to by the Secretary of War, in which a hope was expressed that he would, extend to them, meanwhile a lenient, and untill the expiration of the time asked for. It is not seen after all this, how with all the kind feeling cherished for those people by the Executive, their further continuation in Illinois, can be allowed; and it is better for them, under such circumstances, as appear to surround them, they cross the River and settle West." It is not esteemed to be necessary to include in the instructions to the Commissioners any thing embracing the Sock and Foxes: they have no claim; and to embrace them as you suggest, might imply otherwise.

The Treaty is to be held at Prairie du-Chien, and not opposite Rock Island as was proposed; this will throw the meeting entirely above, and *out* of the Sock and Fox neighborhood. If any attend there, the Commissioners have been instructed to treat them kindly & put them on the subject of their Mineral Lands West of the Mississippi.

From the communication received to day from the War Department, it may [be] inferred, that no immediate measures will be taken with the Settlers in and about the Sock Village at Rock River. Explain to the Sock & Fox Tribes, the forepart of this Letter particularly, tell them what has been done, by me, as also yourself, and that I must say to them that they cannot remain East of the Mississippi, that they must remove to their own Lands West of the River.

Refer them to the Cession by the Treaty at this place in 1804 confirmed by 1st October of the Treaty at Prairie-du-Chien in 1825 relinquishing all claims to Land East of the Mississippi.

Respectfully Yours

Signed

WILLIAM CLARK

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

28 September, 1829

Whereas there is reason to apprehend from occurrences that have presented themselves since the adjournment of the last legislature and which will shortly be published, that an unexpected demand upon the Public Treasury may render additional imposition upon the people of the State, already taxed to an extent imparalled [*sic*] in any western State, and precisely eight times as high as their brethren of an adjoining one absolutely necessary to defray the current expenses of the government; and it being at all times, and more especially under such circumstances due to the good people of the State that, all money collected from or legally demandable by them should be promptly accounted for and faithfully applied to the purposes prescribed by law. I Ninian Edwards Governor of the State of Illinois, do therefore in pursuance of the duty enjoined upon me "to take care that the laws be faithfully executed" hereby require



the Auditor of Public Accunts The State Treasurer, the Cashier of the State Bank, and all its Branches, the Attorney General, and each Circuit Attorney, to proceed without delay and with the utmost dispatch which the law will admit of to inforce all claims of the State, and to collect all moneys, and other funds now due, or hereafter to become due, which are demandable and receivable by them respectively and forthwith to deposit the same when received in the Public Treasury. In all such cases, it is the province of the Legislature to decide what indulgence shall be given and the duty of executive officers to conform to its decision. No one is entitled to favour who wrongfully witholds or misapplies moneys wrung out of the people by taxation or otherwise Justly due to the State. And as none of the Officers above mentioned can extend indulgence beyond the periods fixed by law or dispense with any penalty which it has prescribed without usurping unwarranted authority, and violating his duty, every future case of the kind that may come to my knowledge will be communicated to the next Legislature with a view to such measures, as they in their Wisdom may think proper to adopt.

By the Governor

NINIAN EDWARDS

A. P. FIELD<sup>1</sup>. Secretary of State

#### EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

*Sir*—You will please furnish me with a Statement exhibiting the actual situation of the State Bank of Illinois as it appears since “all the books, papers, notes, accounts, money auditors warrants & property in anywise belonging to said institution have been delivered over to you by J. M. Duncan Esq. its Late Cashier. From information which I understand to have come from you, I am induced to suppose there are notes in the Bank which

1. Alexander Pope Field: was born in Kentucky; about 1818, came to Illinois and settled in Union County; 1822–24, represented Union County in General Assembly; 1824, presidential elector; 1826–30, representative in General Assembly; January 23, 1829–November 30, 1840, secretary of state; August 6, 1841, appointed sercetary of Wisconsin Territory by President Harrison; but soon resigned and moved to St. Louis, Missouri; 1856, moved to New Orleans; December 1864, refused seat in Congress as representative from Louisiana; 1872, elected attorney-general of Louisiana; August 19, 1876, died at New Orleans; in politics Field was first a Democrat, then a Whig, and finally a Republican.—*Wisconsin Historical Collections*, VIII., 450.

do not belong to it, but were left there by persons who gave new notes for the same debts. I am therefor particularly anxious to ascertain the true amount of notes actually due the Bank.

Very respectfully I am Sir Yr mot obt Servt.

NINIAN EDWARDS

TO JAMES HALE Esq. Treasurer of the State and Acting Cashier  
of the State Bank of Illinois

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

24 Jan., 1830

*Gentlemen*—You will please furnish me with a Statement of “all the Books Papers, notes, accounts money, Auditors Warrants, and property in any wise belonging to the State Bank of Illinois which have been delivered by the late Cashier of said Bank, to the Treasurer of the state in pursuance of the 4th section of the act “entitled an act to amend the act establishing the State Bank of Illinois approved Feby. 13, 1827” and of the 6th Section of the act entitled an act to amend an act, supplementary to an act establishing the State Bank of Illinois approved January 23, 1829, together with an account of such proceedings as you may have adopted or intend to adopt in reference to the duties devolved upon you by those Sections of the Laws referred to.

The length of time which has elapsed since the first day of March last having afforded sufficient opportunity for the action required of you by law leads me to hope for an early answer to those inquiries.

I have the honor to be very respectfully Gentlemen

Yr. mt. obt. Servt

NINIAN EDWARDS

Whereas<sup>1</sup> by the act of Congress approved on the second day of March one thousand eight hundred and twenty seven, entitled, “An act to grant a quantity of Land to the State of

1. Transferred from Vol. III of the Executive Letter-Books.

Illinois for the purpose of aiding in opening a canal to connect the waters of the Illinois River with those of Lake Michigan," it is provided that there should be granted to the State of Illinois for the purpose of aiding said State in opening a canal to unite the waters of the Illinois River with those of Lake Michigan, a quantity of Land equal to one half of five Sections in width on each side of said canal, and reserving each alternate Section to the United States, to be selected by the Commissioner of the Land office under the direction of the President of the United States, from one end of said canal to the other; and the said land shall be subject to the disposal of the Legislature of the said State, for the purpose aforesaid and no other, Be it known that the following described tracts or sections of Land, North of the Base line and East of the third principal Meridian [*sic*] line, are hereby designated as being a portion of those tracts intended to be granted by the United States unto the State of Illinois by the said act of Congress, upon the conditions and for the purposes therein mentioned, and no other.

Section	Town	Range	Section	Town	Range	Section	Town	Range
One.....	32	1	Three.....	33	1	Twenty-one..	33	1
Three.....	32	1	Nine.....	33	1	Twenty-three	33	1
Nine.....	32	1	Eleven.....	33	1	" five...	"	"
Eleven.....	"	"	Thirteen.....	"	"	" seven..	"	"
One.....	33	"	Fifteen.....	"	"	Thirty-three .	"	"
Thirty-five...	"	"	Thirty-three..	34	2	Three.....	33	4
Twenty-five..	34	1	Thirty-five...	"	"	Five.....	"	"
Twenty-seven	"	"	Five.....	32	3	Seven.....	"	"
Thirty-three..	"	"	Seven.....	"	"	Nine.....	"	"
Thirty-five...	"	"	One.....	33	3	Eleven.....	"	"
One.....	32	2	Three.....	"	"	Thirteen.....	"	"
Three.....	"	"	Five.....	"	"	Fifteen.....	"	"
Five.....	"	"	Seven.....	"	"	Seventeen....	"	"
Eleven.....	"	"	Nine.....	"	"	Nineteen.....	"	"
One.....	33	2	Eleven.....	"	"	Twenty-one..	"	"
Three.....	"	"	Thirteen.....	"	"	Twenty-three	"	"
Five.....	"	"	Fifteen.....	"	"	Twenty-five..	"	"

Section	Town	Range	Section	Town	Range	Section	Town	Range
Seven.....	33	2	Seventeen....	33	3	Twenty-seven	33	4
Nine.....	"	"	Nineteen.....	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"
Eleven.....	"	"	Twenty-one..	"	"	Thirty-one...	"	"
Thirteen.....	"	"	Twenty-three	"	"	Thirty-three..	"	"
Fifteen.....	"	"	Twenty-five..	"	"	Thirty-five...	"	"
Seventeen....	"	"	Twenty-seven	"	"	Seventeen....	34	4
Nineteen.....	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"	Nineteen.....	"	"
Twenty-one..	"	"	Thirty-one...	"	"	Twenty-one...	"	"
Twenty-three	"	"	Thirty-three..	"	"	Twenty-three	"	"
Twenty-five..	"	"	Thirty-five...	"	"	Twenty-five..	"	"
Twenty-seven	"	"	Thirteen.....	34	3	Twenty-seven	"	"
Twenty-nine..	"	"	Twenty-three	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"
Thirty-one...	"	"	Twenty-five..	"	"	Thirty-one...	"	"
Thirty-three..	"	"	Twenty-seven	"	"	Thirty-three..	"	"
Thirty-five...	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"	Thirty-five...	"	"
Nineteen.....	34	2	Thirty-one...	34	3	One.....	32	5
Twenty-one..	"	"	Thirty-three..	"	"	Three.....	"	"
Twenty-five..	"	"	Thirty-five...	"	"	Five.....	"	"
Twenty-seven	"	"	One.....	32	4	Seven.....	"	"
Twenty-nine..	"	"	Three.....	"	"	Nine.....	"	"
Thirty-one...	"	"	One.....	33	4	Eleven.....	"	"
Thirteen.....	32	5	Thirteen.....	33	6	Thirty-one...	33	7
Fifteen.....	"	"	Fifteen.....	"	"	Eleven.....	34	7
One.....	33	5	Seventeen....	"	"	Thirteen.....	"	"
Three.....	"	"	Nineteen.....	"	"	Fifteen.....	"	"
Five.....	"	"	Twenty-one..	"	"	Seventeen....	"	"
Seven.....	"	"	Twenty-three	"	"	Nineteen.....	"	"
Nine.....	"	"	Twenty-five..	"	"	Twenty-one..	"	"
Eleven.....	"	"	Twenty-seven	"	"	Twenty-three	"	"
Thirteen.....	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"	Twenty-five..	"	"
Fifteen.....	"	"	Thirty-one...	"	"	Twenty-seven	"	"
Seventeen....	"	"	Thirty-three..	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"
Nineteen.....	"	"	Thirty-five...	"	"	Thirty-one...	"	"
Twenty-one..	"	"	Twenty-three	34	6	Thirty-three..	"	"
Twenty-three	"	"	Twenty-five..	"	"	Thirty-five...	"	"
Twenty-five..	"	"	Twenty-seven	"	"	One.....	33	8
Twenty-seven	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"	Three.....	"	"
Twenty-nine..	"	"	Thirty-one...	"	"	Five.....	"	"
Thirty-one...	"	"	Thirty-three..	"	"	Seven.....	"	"
Thirty-three..	"	"	Thirty-five...	"	"	Nine.....	"	"

Section	Town	Range	Section	Town	Range	Section	Town	Range
Thirty-five...	33	5	One.....	33	7	Eleven.....	33	8
Twenty-nine..	34	5	Three.....	"	"	Fifteen.....	"	"
Thirty-one...	"	"	Five.....	"	"	Seventeen...	"	"
Thirty-three..	"	"	Seven.....	"	"	One.....	34	8
Thirty-five...	"	"	Nine.....	"	"	Three.....	"	"
Three.....	32	6	Eleven.....	"	"	Five.....	"	"
Five.....	"	"	Thirteen....	"	"	Seven.....	"	"
Seven.....	32	6	Fifteen.....	33	7	Nine.....	34	8
One.....	33	6	Seventeen...	"	"	Eleven.....	"	"
Three.....	"	"	Nineteen....	"	"	Thirteen....	"	"
Five.....	"	"	Twenty-one..	"	"	Fifteen.....	"	"
Seven.....	"	"	Twenty-three	"	"	Seventeen...	"	"
Nine.....	"	"	Twenty-seven	"	"	Nineteen....	"	"
Eleven.....	"	"	Twenty-nine..	"	"	Twenty-one..	"	"
Twenty three	34	8	Twenty-nine..	34	8	Thirty-five...	34	8
Twenty-five..	"	"	Thirty-one...	"	"	Thirty-five...	35	8
Twenty-seven	"	"	Thirty-three..	"	"	.....	.....	.....

(Signed)

ANDREW JACKSON

GENERAL LAND OFFICE

March 5, 1830

I, George Graham Commissioner of the General Land Office do hereby certify that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the original on file in this office.

In testimony whereof I have hereunto Signed my name and caused the Seal of the General Land Office to be affixed, at the City of Washington the eighth day of March 1830.

GEO. GRAHAM  
Commissioner of the Gen. Land Office

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS TO SHERIFF OF.....  
COUNTY GREETING

Whereas his Excellency James B Ray Governor of the State of Indiana, has in pursuance of the Laws of the United States demanded of the Governor of this State, Amos Williams Richard Williams and Jasper Williams as fugitives from Justice of the State of Indiana and has transmitted to this department a legally authenticated Copy of an Indictment found by the Grand Jury of the County of Decatur in the State of Indiana, Charging the said Amos Williams, Richard Williams and Jasper Williams with having on the 11th day of February 1828; in the County of Decatur and State of Indiana Committing Man Slaughter on the body of one Azariah Blount. Now Know ye, that I, Ninian Edwards Governor of the State of Illinois in the name of the people thereof, do hereby Command you to arrest, Safely Keep, and deliver over the said Amos Williams, Richard Williams and Jasper Williams to George L. Kinnard who is authorised by the Governor of Indiana to receive them, on his paying to you the expenses of their arrest and detention.

In Testimony of which I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of State to be affixed Done at Vandalia this 30th day of March 1830.

NINIAN EDWARDS

By the Governor A. P. FIELD Secretary

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

8 April, 1830

*Sir*—You will please to inform me what amount of State paper is now in the Treasury which ought, according to law, to be burnt on or before the 10th Inst.

Very Respectfully Yr. Obt St

NINIAN EDWARDS

JAMES HALL Esqr Treasurer of the State of Illinois

GENERAL LAND OFFICE<sup>1</sup>

22d May, 1830

*Sir*—Your letter of the 28th Ult. has been received, and agreeable to the request therein contained I enclose herewith a certified copy of a List of two hundred and forty Sections granted to the State of Illinois under the “act of the 2d March 1827 for that part of the Illinois canal between Lake Michigan and Range 8 East, agreeably to Statement contained in my letter to you of the 16 Jany. Last. A letter dated the 29 March last has been received from Mr. Roberts the President of the Canal Board. According to the views of this office as expressed in the letter of January last, but in which he has not designated the Sections to be thrown off from the locations as marked on the map, and I have therefore to reduce the Selection East of the 8<sup>th</sup> Range & West of the Lake to the Number included in the enclosed list excluded then from the twelve Sections too many which were farthest from the Canal line. Whenever I am informed which of the Sections out of the nine tiers between the 2d & 8th Ranges specified in my letter to you of the 8th of March last you may desire to have granted to the State to make up the quantity to which she is entitled for that part of the Canal West of the 9th Range. I will transmit you the necessary certificate for them.

With great Respect Your most obt. Servant

GEO. GRAHAM

His Excellency NINIAN EDWARDS

VANDALIA

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

July 9th, 1830

*Sir*—I am now attending at this place to see you burn so much of the State paper which remained in the Treasury at the end of the last quarter as you are required to burn by the 4th Sec. of the act entitled “An act authorizing the commissioner of the School and Seminary fund to loan the same to the State.”

1. Transferred from Vol. III of Executive Letter-Books.

You will please inform me whether it will be convenient for you to perform this duty tomorrow and at what time of the day.

Very respectfully I am Sir, Yr. Mo. ob. St.

NINIAN EDWARDS

JAMES HALL Tr. of State

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

July 10. 1830

THE PRESIDENT OF THE STATE BANK OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—You will please inform me what amount of Illinois State Bank notes has been burnt since the 26th December 1828.

Very respectfully Yr. Mo. ob. St.

NINIAN EDWARDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS

October 2nd, 1830

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN MILLER Governor of the State of Missouri

*Sir*—I have had the honor to receive your letter of the 6th ult. with its accompanying documents apprizing me of the detention in the Jail of St. Louis County of John Kelly, a fugitive from Justice of this State, charged with the murder of Elisha Eldred in Jo Daviess County of this State, and offering to deliver the said John Kelly to such person as I may appoint to receive him, without any testimony from me to establish his guilt, the proof already before you being of itself considered sufficient for that purpose. I therefore as Governor of this State, and in conformity to the act of Congress in such cases made and provided, do hereby demand of you the said John Kelly as a fugitive from the Justice of this State who murdered the aforesaid Elisha Eldred in July 1827 at or near Galena in this State & I have to request that you will cause the said John Kelly to be delivered to Maj. William G Brown who is authorised to receive him & will have the honor of handing you this demand.



In Testimony of which I have hereto  
 subscribed my name & caused the seal of the  
 (Seal) State to be hereto annexed on the day and  
 year above written.

By the Governor

NINIAN EDWARDS

A. P. FIELD, Secretary of State

BELLVILLE Oct. 2, 1830

*Sir*—It having become my duty to demand of the Governor of Missouri, a certain John Kelly who murdered Elisha Eldred at or near Galena in July 1827, afterwards fled from the justice of this State, & is now in jail at St. Louis & having appointed William G. Brown Esq. to deliver my demand receive the said Kelly & carry him to Jo Daviess Co. & there deliver him to the sheriff thereof you will please issue a warrant on the Treasury for \$100 payable out of the contingent fund, in favor of the said Wm G Brown Esqr. for the purpose of paying the expenses of the said Kellys arrest imprisonment & removal, which said sum is to be charged to the said Brown & to be settled for by vouchers showing that it has been expended for those objects, provided it shall require the whole or otherwise to return so much thereof as shall remain in his hands unexpended,

Yr. Mo. Obt. Ser.

NINIAN EDWARDS

To E. C. BERRY, Auditor of Public Accounts



BOOK 3  
GOVERNORS' LETTERS  
1828-1834







*John Reynolds*

## CHAPTER IV.

EXECUTIVE LETTER-BOOK OF JOHN REYNOLDS, 1830-1834

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS, DECEMBER, 1830

GOVERNOR REYNOLDS

Copy of a Letter to the Govr of Indiana.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

VANDALIA, 6th Janry 1831

*Sir*—I have the honor to inclose to you a copy of a memorial of the General Assembly of this State, with a request that you lay the same before the Legislature of the State over which you preside. I hope that no difficulty may arise between two States that in fact, and for their respective interests, are, and ought to be, friendly to each other.

Respectfully, Your humble servant

JOHN REYNOLDS

His Excellency The Govr of Indiana

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

5 Feb. 1831

*Sir*—I have the honor to inform you, that the Memorials mentioned in the enclosed paper have passed the General Assembly of the State. And it is a pleasure for me further to inform you, that the people of the State of Illinois feel a deep interest in the improvement of the Wabash river, and will cooperate with the State of Indiana in said improvements, so far as the means in the power of the State will justify. The two states have the same common interest in the improvement of the Wabash River, and will no doubt act together, and I sincerely hope efficiently, for the good of both. I will do all in

1. The cover of this letter-book is dated 1828-1834, because there are contained in it copies of earlier letters, in fact letters written as early as 1826; but it is quite evident that this is the Letter-Book of Governor Reynolds, who has had those letters of his predecessors which were of particular interest to him copied herein. Copies of several letters of Reynolds are to be found in Volume II; but these were all recopied into this volume.

my power in this desirable work in performing my duty to the people of this State.

With sincere respect your fellow Citizen

JOHN REYNOLDS

His Excellency The Govr. of Indiana

STATE OF ILLINOIS

VANDALIA, 5 Feb. 1831

*Sir*—With the enclosed Resolution of the General Assembly of the State of Illinois, please to accept my friendly regard for you and your Administration.

JOHN REYNOLDS

The President of the United States

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS, 9 March 1831

TO THE TREASURER OF THE STATE

*Sir*—Please to inform this department of the amount of money in the Treasury which was received from the sale of the land which was reserved for the Gallatin County Saline, and which was appropriated for the erection of the Penitentiary. Also you will inform me what amount of money there is in the Treasury subject to legal appropriations.

your obed Serv

JOHN REYNOLDS

A letter to the same purport as the preceding to the Auditor of Public Accounts.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

17 March 1831

MR. SAMUEL WIGGINS

*Sir*—A contract for the loan of money to the State of Illinois was made with you. In that contract there is contained a stipulation, that at any time before the first of October next, on giving you six weeks notice, it is in the discretion of the Governor of the State to call on you to pay into the Treasury of



the State a certain sum of money. Now, as there is a necessity [*sic*] for some money to be paid into the Treasury, I hereby, under the provisions of said Contract, as Governor of this State, do give you notice to pay into the Treasury of the State, on the first day of April next, five thousand dollars, and this shall be a sufficient voucher for the Treasurer of the State to receive the same

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

Mar. 23. 1831

TO THE STATE TREASURER

The contract which the State made with Mr. Wiggins for the loan of money, enabled the Governor of the State, at any time before October next, on giving Mr. Wiggins six weeks notice, to call on him to pay into the Treasury any sum, not exceeding 30,000 dollars, and the State would pay interest only from the time of receiving the same. It is requisite for me to have some *data* for these calls. Therefore, I request you to inform me what sum of money will be required to defray the current expences of the State until October next, and to pay the appropriations payable before that time.

The Penitentiary concern will require, I suppose, about six thousand dollars before October next. Leave the sum for the Penitentiary out of the Estimate, as I shall know myself how to draw for that object.

J. REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

24 Mar. 1831

*Gentlemen*—There are yet a few sections of the Seminary lands to be selected from the vacant lands within this State And it is desirable to have the most valuable land in the State, which is not improved, selected, and as you all are well qualified to make said selections, I do therefore as the Executive of the State, appoint and authorise you to select the most valuable lands within the State, which are not improved, to the amount of the balance of said Seminary Lands which are not located.

Your compensation will be the same as heretofore allowed for like service, or more if the service is harder to be performed.

JOHN REYNOLDS

TO MESSRS. WM B. ARCHER<sup>1</sup>, JOHN D. WHITESIDE<sup>2</sup> & JOHN A. WAKEFIELD<sup>3</sup>

OFFICE OF THE SEC. OF STA. VAND

7 April 1831

Sir—Acting for the Secretary of State, I herewith send, for your information as Attorney General, a copy of the report made by the Finance committee in the case of James Turney, and a certified copy of the act, entitled “An Act for the relief of James Turney.”<sup>4</sup>

Your mo obed servt.

W. T.<sup>5</sup>

TO G. FORQUER Esq.<sup>6</sup> Atty General Springfield

1. William B. Archer; born 1792, in Wayne County, Ohio; 1817, moved to Clark County, Illinois; 1819-20, county clerk of Clark County; 1819-22, circuit clerk, Clark County; 1824-26, represented Clark County in General assembly; 1826-34, state senator; 1832-34, served as captain of militia in Black Hawk War; 1834, unsuccessful candidate for lieutenant-governor; 1835, appointed by Governor Duncan member of first board of commissioners of Illinois-Michigan Canal; 1838-42, state representative; 1846-48, state representative; 1854, anti-Nebraska candidate for Congress; 1856, delegate to first Republican National Convention at Philadelphia; August 9, 1870, died; founded Marshall, county seat of Clark County.—*Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois*.

2. John D. Whiteside; born, 1794, at Whitesides Station, Monroe County, Illinois; 1830-36, represented Monroe County in General Assembly; 1836, presidential elector; December 5, 1836-March 6, 1837, State Senator; March 4, 1837-March 6, 1841, state treasurer; 1844-46, represented Monroe County in General Assembly; 1847, member of Constitutional Convention; 1850, died at place of birth where he was buried; in politics, Whiteside was a Democrat.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

3. John A. Wakefield; August 7, 1818, appointed justice of the peace of Bond County; 1824-26, represented Fayette County in General Assembly.—James, *Territorial Records*; Moses, John, *Illinois, Historical and Statistical*.

4. James Turney; born in Tennessee; 1820-22, secretary of the state senate; 1821, unsuccessful candidate for attorney-general; 1822-23, represented Washington County in the General Assembly; 1823-29, attorney-general; 1824, lived at Carrollton; 1826, unsuccessful Congressional candidate; 1831-33, paymaster-general in Black Hawk War; 1835, unsuccessful candidate for judgeship of First Circuit; December 7, 1835-January 18, 1836, represented Greene County in General Assembly, *vice* L. W. Link, resigned; 1836-39, state senator from Greene County.—Moses, John *Illinois, Historical and Statistical*, Chicago, 1892

5. William Turner.

6. George Forquer; born, 1794, near Brownsville, Pennsylvania; 1804, settled at New Design, Illinois; 1824-January 18, 1825, represented Monroe County in General Assembly; January 15, 1825-December 31, 1828, secretary of state; 1828, unsuccessful congressional candidate; January 23, 1829-December 3, 1832, attorney-general; 1832-36, state senator from Sangamon County; December 15, 1834, appointed register of land-office at Springfield by President Jackson; September 12, 1838, died at Cincinnati. He projected towns of Waterloo and Bridgetown.—Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT 22 April 1831

TO THE TREASURER OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—You are hereby requested to file an additional bond as Treasurer of the State, as I understand you have one prepared, and are anxious to file it.

your obed serv.

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ILLINOIS, 20 May, 1831

TO THE ADJUTANT GENERAL

*Sir*—Please favor me with the time when the Statement of the number of the Militia of this State was, under the 9th section of the Act to provide for taking, the Census of the State, passed 13th January 1829, made out by you, and sent to the War Department.

I wish to be informed of the time and the amount of Militia, so as to obtain the quota of arms due this State from the U.S.

your obt. servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

BELLEVILLE, 26th May, 1831

GENRL. CLARK Superintendent &amp;c.

*Sir*—In order to protect the Citizens of this State, who reside near Rock Island from Indian invasion and depredation, I have considered it necessary to call out a force of the Militia of this State of, about 700 strong to remove a band of the Sock Indians, who reside now about Rock Island. The object of the Government of the State is to protect their Citizens, by removing said Indians peaceably, if they can, but forcibly if they must. Those Indians are now, & so I have considered them, in a state of actual invasion of the State.

As you act as the General Agent of the United States in relation to those Indians, I considered it my duty to inform you of the above call on the Militia, and that, in about fifteen days, a sufficient force will appear before those Indians to remove

them *dead* or *alive* over to the West side of the Mississippi. But to save all this disagreeable business, perhaps, a request from you to them for them to remove to the West side of the River would effect the object of procuring peace to the Citizens of the State.

There is no disposition on the part of the people of this State to injure those unfortunate deluded Savages, if they will let us alone, but a Government, that does not protect its Citizens, deserves not the name of a Government. Please correspond with me on this subject.

Your Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

SUPERINTENDENCY OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

ST. LOUIS, May 28, 1831

Sir—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of 26th instant informing me of your having considered it necessary to call out a force of Militia of about seven hundred, for the protection of the Citizens of Illinois who reside near Rock Island, from Indian invasion, and for the purpose of removing a band of Sac Indians who are now about Rock Island &c.

You intimate that to prevent the necessity of employing this force, perhaps a request from me to those Indians to remove to the West side of the Mississippi, would effect the object of procuring peace to the Citizens of your State.

In answer to which I would beg leave to observe, that every effort on my part has been made to effect the removal from Illinois of *all* the Tribes who had ceded their Lands.

For the purpose of affording you a view of what has been done (in part) in relation thereto, I enclose you herewith extracts from the Reports of the Agent for the Sac & Fox Tribes, by which it will be seen that every means short of actual force, has been employed to effect their removal.

I have communicated the contents of your Letter to Genl. Gaines who commands the Western division of the Army, and has full power to execute any Military movement deemed necessary for the protection of the Frontier. I shall also furnish him

with such information regarding the Sacs & Foxes as I am possessed of, and would beg leave to refer you to him for any further proceedings in relation to this subject.

I have the honor to be with high respect

Your Obt. Servt.

WILLIAM CLARK

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS, Govr. of the State of Illinois

BELLEVILLE, 28th May 1831

GENRL. GAINES<sup>1</sup>

Sir—I have received undoubted information, that the Section of this State near Rock Island is actually invaded by a hostile band of the Sock Indians, headed by the Black Hawk; And in order to repel said invasion, and to protect the Citizens of the State, I have, under the provisions of the Constitution of the United States, & the Laws of this State, called on the Militia to the number of seven hundred men, who will be mounted, and ready for service in a very short time.

I consider it my duty to lay before you the above information, so you, commanding the Military forces of the United States in this part of the Union, may adopt such measures in regard to said Indians, as you deem right.

The above mounted Volunteers (because such they will be) will be in readiness immediately to move against said Indians.

And I as the Executive of the State of Illinois respectfully solicit your cooperation in this business.

Please honor me with an answer to this Letter

With sincere respect for your character,

I am your Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

1. Edmund Pendleton Gaines: born March 20, 1777, in Culpepper County, Virginia; 1795, made lieutenant; 1807, appointed captain; March 24, 1811, appointed major of infantry, by President Madison; 1812-14, took part in war of 1812; July 3, 1812, appointed lieutenant-colonel; March 12, 1813, appointed colonel; confirmed by the senate, June 29, 1813; March 9, 1814, appointed brigadier-general; prior to 1816 appointed breveted major-general; 1817, ordered south to make war against Creeks and Seminoles; 1831-33, took part in Black Hawk War; 1835, fought in Florida; 1839, married Mrs. Myra (Clark) Whitney; 1846, took part in Mexican War; June 6, 1849, died at New Orleans.—*National Cyclopaedia of American Biography*, IX, 372.

HD. QURS. WESTERN DEPARTMENT

29th May, 1831

HIS EXCELLENCY GOVERNOR REYNOLDS

*Sir*—I do myself the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your Letter of yesterdays date, advising me of your having received undoubted information that the Section of the frontier of your State near Rock Island is invaded by a hostile band of Sauk Indians, headed by the Chief called Black Hawk; that in order to repel said invasion, and protect the Citizens of the State, you have called on the Militia to the number of seven hundred mounted men to be in readiness immediately to move against the Indians & you solicit my cooperation.

In reply, it is my duty to state to you, that I have ordered six companies of the regular troupe Stationed at Jefferson Barracks to embark to morrow morning, and repair forthwith to the spot occupied by the hostile Sauks; to this detachment I shall if necessary add four companies from Prarie du-Chien, making a total of ten Companies, with this force I am satisfied that I shall be able to repel the invasion, & give security to the frontier inhabitants of the State.

But should the hostile bands be sustained by the residue of the Sauks, Fox or other Indians, to an extent requiring an augmentation of my force, I will in that event communicate with your Excellency by Express, & avail myself of the cooperation which you have proposed; But under existing circumstances & the present aspect of our Indian relations on the Rock Island Section of the frontier, I do not deem it necessary or proper to require Militia or description of force, other, than that of the Regular Army at this place and Prarie du Chien.

I have the Honor to be very Respectfully

Your Obedt Servt.

EDMUND P. GAINES

Major Genrl. by Brvt. Commanding

## HEAD QUARTERS ROCK ISLAND

5th June, 1831

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN REYNOLDS Governor of Illinois

*Sir*—I do myself the honor to report to your Excellency the result of my conference with the Chiefs & Braves of the Band of Sauk Indians, settled within the limits of your State, near this place. I called their attention to the facts reported to me, of their disorderly conduct toward the White inhabitants near them, but at the same time adhered with stubborn pertinacity, to their purpose of remaining on the Rock River Land in question.

I notified them of my determination to move them, (peaceably if possible) but at all events to move them to their own side of the Mississippi River, pointing out to them the apparent impossibility of their living on lands purchased by the Whites, without constant disturbance.

They contended that this part of this Country had never been sold by them. I explained to them the different treaties of 1804, 1816 & 1825, and concluded with a positive assurance that they must move off, and that I would, as soon as they are ready, assist them with Boats.

I have this morning learned that they have invited the Prophets Band of Winnebagoes on Rock River, with some Pottowotomies & Kickapoos to join them. If I find this to be true, I shall gladly avail myself of my present visit to see them well punished. And therefore, I deem it to be the only safe measure now to be taken, to request of your Excellency, the Battallion of mounted men, which you did me the honor to say would co-operate with me. They will find at this post a supply of rations for the men, with some Corn for their Horses, together with a supply of Powder & Lead. I have deemed it expedient under all the circumstances of the case, to invite the frontier inhabitants to bring their families to this Post, untill the difficulty is over.

I have the honor to be, with great respect Yr. Obdt. Servt.

EDMUND P. GAINES

Major Genrl. by Brevet Commanding

P.S. Since writing the above remarks, I have learned that the Winebagoes & Potowatomies Indians, have actually been invited by these Sauks to join them, but that the former evince no disposition to comply. And it is supposed by Col. Gratiot, the Agent, that none will join the Sauks, except perhaps some few Kickapoos.

E. P. G.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

15th June, 1831

TO MESSRS. AMOS WILLIAMS, Register, WILLIAM REED, Receiver

*Gentlemen*—Your bonds having been received, approved and filed. You are by these presents, required to proceed in conformity to the provisions of “an act providing for the sale of the Vermilion Saline reserve, and appropriating the avails thereof,” approved January 19th, 1829, to advertise the said Saline lands, and to take such other steps as may be necessary to the full and complete execution of the duties imposed on the Register and Receiver by the said recited act.

I enclose a copy of the certified list of the lands from the General Land Office.

Respectfully Yours

JOHN REYNOLDS

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, VANDALIA

22 June, 1831

TO WM. B. ARCHER

*Sir*—As you are first named in the Commission granted by Governor Reynolds for the selection of Seminary lands, I lose not a moment in transmitting to you a copy of a letter received here last evening from the Commissioner of the General Land Office, by which you will perceive that a relinquishment, by lawful authority, of the College township in Fayette, must precede the adoption of any measures in respect to the location of



the lands in lieu of that township; also, that it is doubtful whether any valid relinquishment can at present be made.

I have the honor to be Sir, your most obed servt

W. TURNER

acting for the Secretary of State

To WM. B. ARCHER ESQR. Darwin Clark County, Illinois

Copy of the letter above referred to.

GENERAL LAND OFFICE

2 June, 1831

*Sir*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 17th ultimo.

The act of Congress of the 3d (2d) of March last, entitled "An Act to authorize the State of Illinois to surrender a township of land granted to said State for a Seminary of learning, and to locate other lands in lieu thereof," requires that the State of Illinois shall relinquish to the United States township number five, north of range number one, west, heretofore granted to said State for a Seminary of learning.

The perfection of the relinquishment alluded to, in legal form and by lawful authority, is to precede the adoption of any measures in relation to the location of the lands to be substituted for such township. After the filing of such relinquishment, an order will be issued to the General Land Offices in Illinois, authorizing the locations contemplated by the Act; but it is worthy of some consideration whether any valid relinquishment can be made in the case, or any lands located, until the Legislature of Illinois shall by some act express its assent to the proposition and the conditions of the Act of Congress above named.

I am, very respectfully, Yr obed servant

ELIJAH HAYWARD

JOHN REYNOLDS Esqr Governor of Illinois Vandalia

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, VANDALIA

22 June, 1831

*Sir*—In obedience to the instructions of Gover [*sic*] Reynolds, I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of the 1st and 2nd

Sections of an Act, passed by the last General Assembly of this State, in relation to the Seminary Lands.

If the power given to the Executive of Illinois, by this Act, to make a deed of surrender of township numbered five north, of range numbered one west, in the County of Fayette, should by you, on behalf of the United States, be deemed good, I request the favor of you, Sir, to furnish this department with the form of such a deed as will be satisfactory to the General Government. If, on the other hand, you should be of the opinion that a valid relinquishment cannot be made under this Act, which bears date antecedently to the Act of Congress, you will please to address the Executive of Illinois on the subject, at Belleville, St. Clair County. Your letter of the 2nd instant has been received and forwarded to Governor Reynolds.

I have the honor to be &c &c

The Commissioner of the General Land Office

BELLEVILLE, 7th July, 1831

TO THE HONORABLE, THE SECRETARY OF THE DEPARTMENT OF  
WAR

*Sir*—I consider it my duty to inform you, of the late Indian hostilities, and of the measures, which were adopted to repress them. The Indians with some exceptions, from Canada to Mexico along the Northern frontier of the United States, are more hostile to the Whites, than at any other period since the last War, particularly, the Band of Sac Indians, usually & truly called the "British band" became unfavourable to the Citizens of Illinois, and others. This band had determined for some years past to remain at all hazards, on certain Lands which had been purchased by the United States, and afterwards some of them sold to private individuals by the General Government; they also determined to drive off the Citizens from this disputed Territory, in order to effect this object they committed various outrages on the persons and property of the Citizens of this State. That this band might the more effectually resist all force that would be employed against them, they treated

with many other Tribes to continue together for the purpose of aiding this British band to continue in possession of the Country in question. These facts and circumstances being known to the inhabitants, they became much alarmed, and many of them [left] homes and habitations.

In this situation of affairs, I considered the State to be actually invaded, & the country in "imminent danger," so much so, that I immediately called on part of the Militia nearest the disputed territory, & be ready to march to repel said invasion, & to restore peace to the frontier.

I informed Genrl. Gaines of the situation of the State, & of my preparatory movements; after the General became acquainted with the number & disposition of the Indians, and the exposed situation of the frontier he very rightly determined in making a requisition on me for a number of mounted Militia, whom I had organized for the same purpose, who cheerfully marched at the call of the United States.

The great extent of the frontier from Lake Michigan to the Mississipi in this State, including part of the mining country, made it necessary to have the service of Mounted men to protect the Citizens. There are a great number of Indians who reside near the Northern bounds of this State, & it was probable, that all might be joined in a War. I have no hesitation in stating, that it was necessary to make the call, and that a considerable number of mounted men ought to be employed in this service.

It has been the case in many Military operations, that a sufficient force has not been in the first instance employed, and the consequence has been disaster and defeat. This was not the case in this Military movement. A sufficient force of mounted men, and none too many for the purpose, was immediately called into the field.

This efficient and bold movement intimidated the Indians, & compelled them to abandon their hostile attitude without blood[shed], that whereas a small number of mounted men would probably have led on to a general War.

Thus I have presented to you the general outlines of this Military movement, which has terminated so fortunately to all.

In the Council or Treaty with the Indians Genl. Gaines requested me to be associated with him, as a Commissioner; you will see by the agreement that these Indians are to remain in future on the West side of the Mississippi. The policy to separate them from the Whites, is the only sure course to preserve peace with them. There is a village of *bad* Indians on Rock River, about thirty miles from its mouth, whom I would recommend you to have moved, to the West side of the River. This may save a great deal of trouble. As I assure you, that, if I am again compelled to call on the Militia of this State, I will place in the field such force as will exterminate all Indians, who will not let us alone.

I have the Honor to be, Your Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

HEAD QURS. WESTERN DEPARTMENT

S. LOUIS, 6th July, 1831

*Sir*—Having been joined on the 25th ultimo by his Excellency Governor Reynolds, with General Joseph Duncans Brigade of Illinois mounted Volunteers: I on the following morning took possession of the Sack Village on Rock River, previously occupied by the British band of Sac Indians.

The appearance of the mounted Volunteers on the one side, & the regular troops with two pieces of Artillery on the other, aided by a Steam Boat armed with a piece of Artillery, & some Musquetry & Riflemen on the River induced the Indians to abandon the Village before the arrival of our Troops & without firing a Gun. Deserted by their allies, this band were left alone to seek security in a precipitate flight to the right bank of the Mississippi, where they were found the next day under the protection of a White flag.

They immediately sued for peace, Whereupon the enclosed "articles of agreement & capitulation" were entered into and signed.

His Excellency Governor Reynolds very cordially cooperated with me in this measure; and he unites with me in the opinion, that the chastisement which part of these Indians merited, could

not have been inflicted without [send]ing many of the innocent frontier Settlers, as well as some of the unoffending Indians to indiscriminate ruin and destruction, and we are of the opinion that these Indians are as completely humbled as if they had been chastised in battle; and they are less disposed to disturb the frontier inhabitants.

I shall take an early occasion to collect and submit for the information of the President of the United States such facts as have been ascertained to exist touching the extensive alliances formed by this Band against our frontier inhabitants.

I should cease to estimate highly as I always have your talents and principals, and I should forget the devotion due to the interests and honor of my Government & country were I to feel indifferent to, or not rejoice at the late changes, by one of which you are placed at the head of the War Department.

I have the Honor to be etc. etc.

EDMUND P. GAINES

Major Genl. by Brevet Commanding

The Honble HUGH LAWSON WHITE, Secretary of War, Washington City, D. C.

The Letter of which the above is a Copy, was written at the time it was believed in S. Louis, that Mr. White had accepted the appointment of Secretary of War.

GEO. A. McCALL  
Aid-de-Camp

WASHINGTON, July 16, 1831

*Sir*—Your favor of the 15th ulto (post marked 22d) has this moment come to hand, apprising me of the measures taken by you on being "informed that a band of the Sac Indians had actually invaded the State near Rock Island, and that the Citizens were in imminent danger" various rumors on the subject have reached here within a day or two past, through the Papers & other channels; but this is the first Official intelligence I have received.

I lose no time in requesting that you will, at your earliest convenience, make a report on this invasion, stating the number of Indians, their deportment, pretensions & acts; and showing the necessity for calling out the Militia & the number ordered, in addition to the regular force on the frontier:—A copy of your correspondence with General Gaines is also desired.

I am, Sir, very respectfully Yr Obedt. Servt.

ANDREW JACKSON

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS Governor of Illinois

BELLEVILLE, 21st July, 1831

*Dear Sir*—I have before me a petition from many of the Citizens of Shelby County, which is situated towards the head of the Kaskaskia River informing me that some Indians, the number not stated, or nation, are insolent and are destroying their Stock, they wish them removed, & say, if the Indians are not started off, the Whites will move them at all events.

I inform you of these facts, that if you have power, you had better see into this matter soon, as some of these Indians may be killed. I have also written to Genl. Clark, but a letter from him to you might take up some time on its passage. I deem it my duty to write to you in the first instance.

These Indians cannot be permitted to live among the Whites, and destroy their Stock. I am sorry that there is of late so much Indian trouble, and as a friend to all parties advise you to get them off as soon as possible.

Your friend

JOHN REYNOLDS

Mr. PETER MENARD, Indian Agent

ASST. ADJT. GENRL. OFFICE  
WESTERN DEPARTMENT

JEFFERSON BARRACKS, 24 July, 1831

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN REYNOLDS, Governor of Illinois

*Sir*—Major Genrl. Gaines has handed me your Letter of the 15th instant, and has requested me, to reply to that part of it

in which you refer to the statement that appeared in the S. Louis Beacon of the 7th inst.—to assure you that, the sentiment therein expressed are neither such as as he himself entertain, or could ever approve. And he further requests that you will receive, and Look upon his letter to the Secretary of War (a copy of which I have the Honor to enclose you) as a testimony of his perfect approbation of the part you took in the late transaction with the Sac Indians on Rock River.

The General left this place yesterday for Nashville, whence he will proceed on a tour of inspection along the South Western frontier. Pray except [*sic*] my thanks for your polite favor of the 22 instant

& believe me, Sir, with great respect, Your Obdt. Servt.

GEO. A. McCALL

A. D. C. & Asst. A. Genl.

DEPARTMENT OF WAR

July 29, 1831

*Sir*—Your Letters of the 14 & 15 instant enclosing a memorial, depositions & etc relative to the hostile attitude of the Indians near Rock River have been received.

The events which have happened since the date of the Memorials addressed to you, & forwarded to this Department, have it is presumed removed the inconveniences, and put an end to the disturbances of which the Memorialist complains.

If however any apprehensions are still entertained in that quarter, and the settlers are supposed to need additional protection, it is hoped that you will communicate it without delay, and the necessary measures will be immediately taken by the Government to ensure the safety.

Very Respectfully Yr Obdt. Servt.

R. B. TANEY

JOHN REYNOLDS Esq. Governor of Illinois

S. LOUIS, July 30, 1831

*Sir*—I herewith enclose you an extract of a Report just received from Mr. St. Vrain, the Indian Agent at Rock Island,

by which you will learn the occurrences which have taken place since your visit to that place.

With respect & esteem Yr. Mo. Obdt. Servt.

WM. CLARK

GOV. REYNOLDS, Bellville Ills.

ROCK ISLAND, May 15th, 1831

GENRL. WILLIAM CLARK, Superintendant Indian Affairs S. Louis

*Respected Sir*—I have again to mention to you that the Black Hawk (a Sac Chief) and his party, are now at their old Village on Rock River they have commenced planting corn and say, that they will keep possession. I have been informed that they have pulled down a House, and some fences, which they burned, they have also turned their Horses in wheat fields & say that they will destroy the Wheat, so that the White People shall not remain amongst them. This is what I expected from their manner of acting last fall, and which I mentioned to you in my Letter of the 8th of October last. I would be glad to have some instructions how to act with this band of Indians. I would not be at a loss were it not for the 7th article of the Treaty with the Sacs & the Foxes of 3d November 1804.

I respectfully ask; would it not be better to hold a Treaty with those Indians, and get them to remove peaceably, than to call on the Military to force them off: none of this band have as yet called on me for information, a few have been at my agency to have some work done at the Smith's Shop.

I have the Honor to be Yr. Obdt. Servt.

FELIX ST. VRAIN, Ind. Agt.

BELLVILLE, 2d August, 1831

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

*Sir*—This day I had the honor of receiving your Letter of the 16th ult.—And I presume such information as will be a complete answer to it has long since been laid before you, so that it is useless for me to trouble you with a recapitulation. I had the



honor of addressing a Letter dated 7th July<sup>1</sup> last to the Secretary of the Department of War, & to which your Excellency on the subject of the necessity of the call on the Militia and the force necessary to be employed on the expedition to Rock River against the Indians.

During the whole Indian disturbance it was almost impossible to ascertain the exact number of Indians who were determined to fight. In this situation I deemed it my duty to call out such force, & to be with them myself, as could not be overpowered by any number of Indians on the frontier.

I considered it proper for the protection of the frontier, and to chastise the insolent and hostile Savage with *speed* to furnish Genrl Gaines with the force I did on the requisition he made me. Since the return of the Militia I have been petitioned by the Citizens to remove a small number of Indians who were doing damage to the property of the White people; I informed the Superintendant of it in St. Louis, and he has sent an Agent to request the Indians to leave the State. The people in the Northern Section of the State are much annoyed with the Indians, and will be untill they are settled on the west side of the Mississippi, on their own Lands.

The policy of the present Administration of the Genrl Government to remove the Indians West of the Mississippi is correct; and I will support it all in my power:—It is much better for the Indians to be separte and apart from the White people. For the good of all concerned, I would respectfully suggest to you the propriety of removing all the Indians in the State of Illinois, to the West side of the Mississippi. This ought to be effected in a peaceable manner, and could be if proper measures were<sup>7</sup> taken with them.

I am informed, that the impression made on the Indians is, that the United States will protect them in living and hunting in the State:—If they were informed, that the State had the power from the General Government, or aauthorize them to remove them, they would, in my opinion go off of their own accord in peace.

1. See *ante*, p. 172.

For the good of the public, I would be much pleased, to receive a communication of the views of the General Government in relation to the Indians within this State.

With Sincere regard for you, & your Administration.

I am Your Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

BELLVILLE, August 2nd, 1831

There is a subject of much interest to this State, which I had the honor early in June last to present to the President of the United States and now I will respectfully call your attention to it, that is the appointment by the President of some person to act in the Commission to establish the Northern Boundary of this State in the place of the Surveyor Genl. of Illinois Missouri &c. That Officer I understand, will not act. The act of the last Congress passed 2d March 1831, Authorizes the President to make the appointment in the event of the Surveyor General declining to act, of which I presume he has apprised the President in writing.

The State of Illinois is anxious that the President do make the appointment so that the line may be established with convenient speed.

I have the honor to be Your obt. Servt

JOHN REYNOLDS

Sec. of State of U. S.

BELLVILLE, 5th August, 1831

GENRL. CLARK SUPERINTENDENT OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

*Sir*—I acknowledge the honor of receiving your two Letters of July last on the subject of our Indian relations. For the prompt manner in which you acted in requesting the Indians in Shelby County, to move off, you deserve the thanks of the people for it—you have mine.

Every good man in Illinois must be Shocked at the conduct related in Mr. Vrains statement, in regard to the Indians, particularly the dead ones—all will condemn it. Let it be known to the Indians concerned, that the Government of the State of

Illinois disapprove [*sic*] and condemn such conduct as much as they do,—And that, all the means in the reach of the Municipal law will be resorted to punish those wicked men for their conduct.

I promised the Indians at Rock Island, to cause to be punished all offences against them, as well as they should be punished when they offended. I have no other means than the Law. I will see that that is executed; the Officers of Justice, who preside in the County, where those outrages were committed are men of talents. I will write to Mr. Thomas Ford<sup>1</sup> of Rushville, who prosecutes for the State, on the subject. I would suggest that Mr. St. Vrain ought to furnish him with the names of Witnesses to appear before the Grand Jury, to indict these wrong doers.

With esteem for you I am Yr. Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

SECRETARY'S OFFICE

VANDALIA, 9 Aug. 1831

*Sir*—In obedience to the instruction of His Excellency the Governor of this State, I have the honor to transmit to you a Deed of Surrender to the United States, of a township of land heretofore granted to the people of Illinois for the use of a Seminary of learning.

With great respect I am, Sir, &c &c  
To the Secretary of the Treasury, Washington City

BELLVILLE, 15th August, 1831

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

*Sir*—Although I had the honor to address you a Letter of the 2d instant in answer to yours of the 16th *ultimo* yet, on account of the late outrages of the Sac Indians, and being honored with a Letter from the Department of War, dated 29th July last, requesting certain information: I deem it my duty again to write you. Presuming you have long since received from Genl. Gaines the information which your Letter requests

1. Thomas Ford: Not Thomas Ford the Governor.

of me, it seems to me unnecessary to go farther into detail in regard to the late invasion of the Indians, their numbers, their deportment, pretensions & acts, & shewing the necessity for calling out the Militia, than barely to state, that after their return from their Wintering grounds, they forcibly took possession, not only of lands which they had long since ceded to the United States. but which had actually been sold by the United States, to individuals:—That the drove of those individuals killed their Stock, threw down their fences, put their Horses into their Wheat fields, destroyed all their crops of small grain, and committing various other depredations, declaring their determination, to take their possessions, & expel all the rightful occupants by force of arms.

There [*sic*] number though variously represented, has never been estimated at less than eight hundred, and as they had, during the whole of last Winter, been engaged in efforts to procure assistance from other Tribes, some of which were known to be successful, it was impossible to calculate with any certainty what force they could be able to bring into the field; Circumstances justify the belief, that with the aid they could have got from other Tribes, and which they would have got, but for the prompt movement of the Militia, that their force would have been above fourteen hundred warriors, & that, [if] they [had] been able to repel the force sent against them, their numbers would soon have been greatly augmented. The Saucks & Foxes constituting one Nation, have themselves about fifteen hundred Warriors, and the miserable policy of recognizing one part of them as hostile, and the other as friendly, instead of holding the whole nation responsible for the conduct of its members, it will always on such occasions render it doubtful, what portion of the force we have to oppose. No reasonable man at all acquainted with those Indians can doubt, that had the War party been able to repel the force sent against them, they would have been joined by the Peace party also; indeed it is generally believed, that during the last war, we suffered much more from the peace party, than from the war party; the former finding it perfectly practicable to have their depredations charged upon the latter. The effect of this policy has been to throw on us the burthen of

taking care of their old men, women & children, while their Warriors have been waging the most unrelentless and Savage hostility against our own Citizens. However much they may pretend to differ in their disposition towards us, they are perfectly united & harmonious among themselves.

And while the Government permits such a state of things to exist, there are no other Indians that have the same inducements to commit depredations upon us since whether such acts be perpetrated by the peace, or war party, they are able to be charged to the latter, while the former secure themselves from all their forfeitures, & responsibilities, which other Tribes incur, by pursuing the same kind of conduct.

Of the hostile disposition towards the United States, & their contempt for the authority of the Government, you doubtless will foresee an additional proof in an account of the murders of Indians friendly to us, and of white men in sight of the Fort at Prairie du Chien. Knowing those Indians as I do, seeing the alarm their conduct had given to our whole frontier from the *Mississippi* to Chicago, witnessing those settlements breaking up, the people moving into the interior for safety, & taking into view all the foregoing circumstances:—I deemed it my duty to furnish Genrl. Gaines, on the request he made with such force, as would be likely to overpower all opposition, and to accompany them myself, for the purpose of affording all the aid in my power; but that I might be ready on the spot, to call out any additional force, that might be necessary.

From the hostile disposition still manifested by those Indians I cannot but consider the detached settlements about Galena in imminent danger; and I feel it my duty to recomment some suitable fortification in a central position, as an Assylum for the People in case an attack should be erected,—& that the Executive of the State, should be authorized to call out a sufficient number of mounted men to repel any actual or threatened invasion. In several parts of the State our people are very much annoyed by several bands of Indians residing upon lands, to which, they have no pretence of title; and which have not only been ceded to the U. S. but subsequently sold to individuals, since the late expedition.

I have received such pressing petitions for the removal of those Indians that I feel it my duty to request that you will have some measures taken for that purpose. It is to be feared, if this is delayed much longer; that the people who feel the annoyance, cannot be restrained from adopting some very harsh measures of redress. This I have done, & shall do all, all in my power to prevent. It is desirable, that those Indians should be removed in as peaceable & friendly manner as possible:—unfortunately they have been impressed with the belief that the U. S. will protect them in living & hunting on the ceded Lands of the State; could this impression be removed, and they be made to believe, that the State has the power to drive them off, there is little doubt they would peaceably retire. No one who has witnessed, as I have done, the evil effects that Indians residing amongst a white population, can doubt the wisdom and humanity of that Policy of the present Administration, which has for its object the settlement of those unfortunate people on the West side of the Mississippi.

At all events we must get clear of them in this State, who are residing upon Lands to which they do not pretend to have any title. I need only refer you to a correspondence upon the subject between my Predecessor and the late Administration to shew how earnestly the interposition of the Genl. Government has been sought in regard to this matter, & how much we have been disappointed in not receiving it as promised by that Administration.

I have the Honor to be with respect, Your Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

ASST. QR. MASTER OFFICE  
ST. LOUIS, 22d August, 1831

*Sir*—In transmitting the annexed Copy of Communication to me from Major General Jesup Quarter Master General U. S. A. I beg leave to state, a copy has been sent to Major William Thomas Brigd. Quarter, at Jacksonville, and being desirous to obtain the earliest information of the claims referred to, and

that in the most authentic manner, I have taken the liberty to make this reference to your Excellency

I have the Honor to be with great respect

Yr. Mo. Obdt. Servt.

J. B. BRANT, A. Qr. M.

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS near Bellville

QR. MASTER GENL. OFFICE

WASHINGTON CITY, August 3d, 1831

*Sir*—I have received your letter of the 17th ultimo covering an account of Messers Knapp & Pogue for supplies furnished to the Militia of Illinois employed on the late expedition against the Indians.

There is no appropriation within the controul of the Executive from which the expenses incurred by the Militia can be paid, the payment therefore of all claims such as that submitted, must be deferred untill an appropriation be made by Congress.

You will take measures to collect all the claims against the Government, connected in any way with the movement of the Militia, & report them to this Office, as soon as possible, in order that an estimate may be presented to Congress of the amount required to pay them.

I am Sir respectfully Your Obdt. Servt.

THOMAS S. JESSUP

Q. M. Genl.

Capt. J. B. BRENT, A. Q. M. S. Louis Mo.

WASHINGTON, August 31st, 1831

*Sir*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 15th inst which would have been answered immediately, but that it was thought best to wait a few days for the communication from Genrl. Gaines, presumed by you to have been received.—That communication has not yet come to hand; and as it is important that the Government should be in possession of full information on the subject, in time for the meeting of Congress, I will no longer delay the request, that you will cause to be furnished at your earliest convenience, all the testimony

within your reach, in relation to the following facts, detailed in your Letter.

1st. That the Indians forcibly took possession of Lands occupied by the Citizens who had purchased them of the United States.

2d. That they drove off these individuals, killed their stock, threw down their fences, put their Horses into their Wheat fields, destroyed all their crops of grain & committed other depredations.

3d. That they declared a determination to expel all the rightful occupants, by force of arms.

4th. That the number of those concerned in these hostilities has never been estimated at less than eight hundred.

5th. That they have formed leagues with other tribes, by means of which the hostile force, but for the prompt movement of the Militia, would have been, about fourteen hundred Warriors.

I am Sir very respectfully Yr. Obdt. Servt.

ANDREW JACKSON

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS, Governor of Illinois

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, ILLINOIS

15 Sep. 1831

*Sir*—In the absence of Governor Reynolds I acknowledge the receipt of the three boxes mentioned in your letter of the 13th of May, in which were found:

A large Map of the State of New York.

A book containing maps of the several Counties.

And

Three Sets of the Revised Statutes, with three copies of the Laws of 1828 and 1829.

The boxes were delivered at this Office free of charge.

I have the honor to be Sir, Your most obed. Servt.<sup>1</sup>

A. C. FLAGG Esq. Albany

1. No signature.



BELLVILLE, 22d Sept, 1831

To LUCIUS LYON Esq.

*Sir*—Being advised, that you are appointed by the President of the United States, to act as a Commissioner on the part of the Genl. Government, in conjunction with the Commissioner of the State of Illinois in establishing the Northern boundary line of this State, I have to inform you that, the State of Illinois is ready to join you at any time you may be ready in commencing said work. And is anxious how soon the said line may be run.

Please inform me at what time you can commence said work.

With respect your obt. Servt

JOHN REYNOLDS

BELLVILLE, October 6th, 1831

To THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

*Sir*—Some time since I had the honor of receiving your Letter dated August 31st ult. containing a "request" on me to obtain and transmit certain information to the Genrl. Government before the meeting of Congress.<sup>1</sup> Immediately on the receipt of your Letter, I sent an express & employed a talented Lawyer to attend to the business;—All the information within my reach on the subject mentioned in your Letter, shall be forwarded to you, before the meeting of Congress. Every thing in my power shall be done to enable the Patriotic Citizens of Illinois to procure their pay, for their praiseworthy services rendered last Summer on the requisition of the United States.

I will cause to be sent to the Genrl. Government copies of a Resolution of the General Assembly of this State, passed at the last Session thereof, and other accompanying documents, all shedding light on this subject. This Resolution alone ought to satisfy all who would read it, on the subject of which you request information.

I deem it proper to mention, that the expenses of procuring this information requested by you will be paid by the United

1. See *ante*, p. 185.

States; and accordingly I have employed the Agent in the part of the General Government.

With esteem I have the honor to be Your Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

ROCK ISLAND, 4th November, 1831

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN REYNOLDS

*Sir*—In conformity with your instructions, we have been engaged at this place, and elsewhere, collecting testimony, touching the Indian disturbances in this part of the State last fall. We have taken all the testimoney deemed material to be obtained in this part of the State which we herewith transmit to you. We consider the following state of facts as fully established.

1st. That the Indians forcibly took possession of Lands occupied and owned by Citizens of the State.

2d. That the [y] drove off sum [*sic*] of the rightful occupants of Land, by active force and violence, and others by threats & menaces.

3d. That the [y] threw down the fences of Citizens, turned their Horses on the Wheat fields, & destroyed the Crops of small grain.

4th. That they declared a determination to expell the rightful occupants of the Land, and take, and retain possession themselves, by force.

5th. That Black Hawk and his party has formed leagues with other Indians, who had promised him assistance, and from [whom] assistance was expected.

6th. That other Indians did in fact join them, and that they were assembling at the Village from different quarters, for some time, untill the arrival of the *Militia*.

7th. That the number of Indians concerned in the Hostilities was estimated at eight hundred by all, who knew, or pretended to know, their number.

8th. That the Indians declared that they would not surrender the possession of the Lands, from which they had expelled the rightful occupants.

9th. That the Indians, have been in the constant habit of stealing & destroying the property of Citizens for several years.

10th. It is shown that of thirty five families who resided on the Mississippi River above the mouth of Rock River, thirty four of those removed to Fort Armstrong for protection, believing that their lives were in danger of being taken by the Indians, & that, but for the prompt movement of the Militia, the whole frontier of the State would have been abandoned by the Inhabitants; that most of the inhabitants of the Counties of Knox, & Warren did abandon their homes, & seek protection in the interior of the State, & in fortifications erected at the time. The absolute & unconditional refusal of the Indians to leave the Villages on Rock River, their previous & lawless conduct, in expelling citizens from Lands purchased from the Government;—their statements that other Indians had agreed to assist them, and the fact that other Indians did join them, justified the belief, that they were determined to resist at the point of the bayonet, every attempt to remove them, and that upon being expelled by force, they would seek their satisfaction & revenge by attacking & massacreing, the defenceless inhabitants of the frontier.

The frontier & Exposed settlements of Illinois, extend from the Mississippi, to the Rapids of the Illinois, a distance of One hundred Miles, the general expectation & belief was, that if the U. S. Troops, expelled the Indians from the Village, that they would, instead of crossing the Mississippi fall back upon the frontier settlements, and destroy the Inhabitants:—The Indians could travel faster than the Troops, and could always keep near enough the River to be enabled to cross it in one night, hence, the general alarm that prevailed on the frontier. It is very certain, that but for the movement of the Militia, the whole frontier of the State would have been abandoned by the Inhabitants, the consequences of which, cannot be well estimated, except by those who have seen & felt the effects of hundreds of families, being compelled to flee from their homes by fear of Savage *Barbarity*, the movements of the Militia quieted the fears of the frontier inhabitants. The people had confidence in the courage and skill of the Officers and bravery of the Troops,

and were satisfied that the Indians could not evade or elude the pursuit of so large a body of mounted men; and although the people felt and expressed the utmost confidence in the talents & courage of the U. S. Officers and men & in their disposition to protect the frontier settlements, yet it was known that those Officers, could not, without mounted men pursue the Indians & drive them from the Country, if the Indians had been disposed to retreat into the interior. The humane Policy of the Government towards the Indians required that they should be removed without destroying them, & a just regard to the safety of the frontier settlements required that, the removal should be made in such a manner as to prevent, the possibility of any injury to those settlements. The history of their removal is already known to your Excellency; but we cannot conclude this report, without passing notice of the conduct of Genrl. Gaines.

That meretorious Officer's conduct upon the occasion, was marked by a degree of prudence, vigilance & discretion, which cannot be too highly commended, & which will entitle him to the gratitude of the Country.

Very Respectfully Yr. Obdt. Servt.

WILLIAM THOMAS<sup>1</sup> JOHN T. STUART<sup>2</sup>

1. William Thomas; born November 22, 1802, in what is now Allen County, Kentucky; 1823, admitted to the bar; 1826, removed to Jacksonville, Illinois, where he taught school; 1827, served as private in Winnebago War; 1828-29, reported proceedings of General Assembly for "The Vandalia Intelligencer;" 1831-32, served as quarter-master and commissary in Black Hawk War; 1834-40, state senator from Morgan County; February 25, 1839-February 10, 1841, circuit judge of the First Circuit; 1846-48, represented Morgan County in General Assembly; 1847, member of Constitutional Convention; 1850-52, state representative; 1861, appointed member of the board of army auditors by Governor Yates; August 22, 1889, died at Jacksonville; Thomas was influential in the establishment of Illinois Female College, the Institutions for the deaf and dumb and the blind, and the Hospital for the Insane, at Jacksonville.—Moses, John, *Illinois, Historical and Statistical*.

2. John Todd Stuart: born, November 10, 1807, at Walnut Hills near Lexington, Kentucky; September 27, 1826, graduated from Centre College, Danville, Kentucky; 1826, went to Richmond, Kentucky, to study law with Judge Daniel Breck; December 19, 1827, licensed to practice law; 1828, came to Louisville, Illinois, then moved to Springfield; May 11, 1829, appointed sergeant-major in Twelfth Regiment of Illinois State Militia; 1831, elected major in Second Regiment; 1832-34, served as major in Black Hawk War; 1832-36, represented Sangamon County in General Assembly; 1836, unsuccessful Whig candidate; October 25, 1837, married Mary Virginia Nash at Jacksonville; 1837-41, law partner of Abraham Lincoln; 1839-43, congressional representative; 1843, formed law partnership with Benjamin S. Edwards; 1848-52, state senator from Sangamon County; 1860, Bell-Everett candidate for governor; 1860, united in law business with C. C. Brown; 1863-65, congressional representative; 1864-65, unsuccessful candidate for Congress; 1866,

BELLVILLE, 10th Nov., 1831

TO JAMES CLYMAN & STEPHEN D. HANDY<sup>3</sup>

Commissioners to locate a road from Vincennes to Chicago:

*Gentlemen*—On yesterday I received your letter of the 26th October last requesting me to inform you, if it be necessary to apply to the Indian Agent for the permission to establish the road from Vincennes to Chicago over the Territory claimed by the Indians.

I am clearly of opinion, the State of Illinois like other States possess the Constitutional power to establish roads in any part of the State, where the public good may require them. The jurisdiction and sovereignty of the State must of necessity be co-extensive with the limits of the State, and no Indian claim to Territory, or other claim can be interposed, to prevent the State from the Constitutional exercise of its Sovereignty. This opinion is contained in the Message which I had the honor of delivering to the last General Assembly of this State. And it was made with a view to the establishment of a Road over the same Indian Territory in question.

As the Act of the Genl. Assembly of this State requires you to locate said road from Danville to Chicago, it is my opinion, your duties require you to execute the law, and to locate said road with all convenient Speed, without making application to any person.

With respect I am your obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

Copy of the Report of James Bucklin Engineer on the part of the State of Illinois for the Illinois and Michigan canal On examination of the Calamic [*sic*] River.

*Gent.*—Although from the facts which have come before us in the late Survey, no doubt is entertained of the practicability

elected president of Springfield City Railway Company, Springfield Watch Company and Bettie Stuart Board of Trustees; served as chairman of the executive committee of the National Lincoln Monument Association; November 28, 1885, died at Springfield; in politics Stuart was first a Whig and later a Republican—Brown, C. C., *John T. Stuart*, in *Transactions* of the Illinois Historical Society, 1902.

3. Stephen Handy: July 9, 1817, appointed ensign in Eighth Regiment; May 5, 1818, appointed captain of Ninth Regiment; June 15, 1825, appointed county surveyor for Clark County.—James, *Territorial Records*.

of supplying the Summit-level, with water from the Calamic River Yet the same degree of confidence cannot be felt in recommending it as a feeder in preference to any other, as might be reasonably entertained could its waters be confined to its banks above the proposed dam for many miles above the head of the Rapids. this cannot be effected by the construction of a dam of the Required height by which a large tract of country within the limits of Indiana would of course be rendered unfit for cultivation the payment of damages accruing from this cause devolving upon the canal and the difficulty and delay which may be anticipated in obtaining the consent of Indiana should not be overlooked in the examination of the question presented. as to the feasibility of this project as far as excavation and embankments are concerned, the route of the feeder is of a character unfavorable. The Calamic at the foot of the Rapids was found to be 5 ft. above the Lake and the fall from the head to the foot of the Rapids is 3 feet. Artificial reservoirs for the purpose of aiding and supplying canals with water have been in use many years and are now extensively and successfully employed. The largest reservoir of which we have any account has been constructed for the supply of the Languedoc canal in the south of France the area of which is 595 acres, and the depth 30 ft. The next in capacity is the Licking Summit and reservoir on the Ohio canal which cover an area of 2424 acres with an average depth of 6 ft. As a Reservoir the Ausoganaskie Swamp may be rendered available to supply the deficiency of the DesPlaines it will contain an area of 900 acres and the water of the DesPlaines can be put in requisition to fill it to the depth of 11-5 ft. the length of the Summit level will probably be 30 miles, certainly not more. experience has shewn that not less than 100 cubic feet of water per. minute for each mile in addition to the quantity necessary for Leakage ought to be admitted into a calculation having in view a full and regular supply thirty miles require for its supply of water 3000 cubic feet per minute..... 3000  
Add the quantity of water necessary for the passage of 100  
boats over the Summit level in each 24 hours..... 938  

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3938  
cubic feet per minute

An Area of 900 acres 11-5 ft. deep will contain.....	460-363-400
Loss by evaporation.....	60-047-000
	<hr/> 400-316.400

This quantity of water will supply the level of 30 miles during 8 months the remaining 4 months the DesPlaines will be required.

#### Estimate of the cost

Embankment 175-112 a 16.....	\$28,017.92
Two inch plank 100,000 a 3.....	3,000.00
Marking 100 ch a 10 c 3500 yds.....	350.00
Head gate at reservoir.....	1,200.00
	<hr/> \$32,567.92

Add cost of canal from Chicago River to Ausogan-askie.....	\$ 74,870.00
Add 20 pr cent for contingencies.....	21,487.58
	<hr/>

Total cost of canal and reservoir to the reservoir..... \$128,925 50

It must be Acknowledged that a feeder furnished by the natural flow of a durable stream is much preferable to a reservoir, breaches in embankments exposed to a pressure of water some times occur not with standing much care may be used to guard against them. when a canal is furnished with water by the natural flow of streams a failure in the embankments connected with it produces no further delay in the navigation than the necessary time for its repair. But should a breach occur in the banks which form a reservoir that part of the canal dependent thereon would be without a supply of water untill the reservoir could again be replenished. An accident of this nature occuring immediately preceeding the winter or Spring floods would produce but little delay in the Navigation, but should such an accident occur after the annual floods which are the main reliance for filling the reservoir the delay would necessarily continue for a much longer period as there would be no means of replenishing it untill the rain of the succeeding fall or winter should have caused sufficient floods for that purpose, These

casualties are mentioned as being peculiar to this method of supplying a canal. It is indeed possible to make a reservoir banks so strong as to render them free from the contingencies alluded to, but it is impossible to say at what point this expenditure would stop if a due regard be had to economy. I have thought it my duty to place before you the prominent objections which exist to both the above plans as upon an examination of a line from Chicago to the mouth of Fox elevation of the ground and facility of procuring materials for the construction of a railway may be such as to render that species of Improvement in Transportation as easy of execution and place it in a point of economy on a par with the former obviating all their objections.

SPRINGFIELD, Nov. 22d 1831

TO "THE BOARD OF CANAL COMS. OF THE ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL"

The undersigned acting Comr. herewith encloses a statement of Mr. James M. Bucklin Engineer, relative to the examination of the Calmic River and to a series of surveys in the valies [sic] of the DesPlaines and Illinois Rivers. This statement will apprise the Board that entire surveys and examinations of the Canal and Railway lines; and of the Rapids of the Illinois River from the mouth of Fox River down to their termination have been made. The Engineer is of opinion that "the facts elicited by the examinations of the route of the proposed Canal are unfavorable to the practicability of its safe and economical construction." But represents that the route examined for a Railway was found extremely favorable for the adoption of that sort of improvement. These statements of the Engineer but confirm a conviction that I had for some time laboured under. Mr Bucklin promises a detailed report of the results including the maps and profiles of the different lines surveyed as soon as practicable.

I am aware that this service will require some time and considerable labour During the season (and that a very unfavourable one too) about two hundred miles of Canal and Railway



line have been surveyed and examined, under every circumstance of distress and embarrassment. upon the subject of improving the navigation of the rapids of the Illinois up to the mouth of Fox River, an opinion will not be expected untill the estimate of costs which will accompany the Engineer's detailed report is received. My detailed report will be made to the Board as soon as that of the Engineer is received upon which mine must greatly depend for many important facts.

very Respectfully

CHAS DUNN Act. Com.

SPRINGFIELD, 21st Nov. 1831

TO CHARLES DUNN Acting Commissioner of the Illinois & Michigan Canal

*Sir*—Having in conformity to your instructions, finished the examinations of the Calmic [*sic*] River together with a series of surveys in the valies of the Des Plaines and Illinois Rivers, neccessary to the development of their true character with reference to the projected improvement of the communication between Lake Michigan and the navigable waters of the Illinois River, by means of a canal or Railway a detailed report of the results including the maps & profiles of the different lines surveyed will be furnished the board as soon as practicable. The objects of the examination of the Calmic River was in a great measure attained, but with every facility afforded for the supply of the Summit-level with water at the most favorable elevation, the facts elicited by the examination of the route of the proposed canal are unfavorable to the practicability of its safe and economical construction. The route examined for a Railway commencing at Chicago, crossing the Des Plaines at Langhton's ford and persuing the N. W. Bank of the Des Plaines was found extremely favorable for the adoption of that species of improvement. the assent from Chicago to the Summit level is 25 feet and the descent thence to the foot of the Rapids of the Illinois 170 ft. which can be readily overcome by motive power with out the aid of stationary engines at a rate of graduation rarely attaining & seldom exceeding 20 ft. to a mile. materials

of stone and timber are generally found in the immediate vicinity of the line. The comparative estimates of the costs of improving the navigation of the Rapids and of the construction of the Canal & Railway from the mouth of Fox River to the termination not being completed, the Board is respectfully [referred] to the final report for information on that subject.

Very Respectfully Your obt. Servant

J. M. BUCKLIN  
Engineer M. & I. C.

SPRINGFIELD, Nov. 22d, 1831

*Sir*—The undersigned commissioners of the “Illinois and Michigan Canal” have the honor to report, that the surveys designed to connect the waters of the Illinois River with Lake Michigan, have been completed by Mr James M. Bucklin the Engineer employed by the Superintending Commissioner; and also of a railway, persuing a route in some respects different from that of the canal in the same section of country. Both surveys are required by the act of the Legislature, that the comparative difference of the two descriptions of work, may be reported by the commissioners to the consideration of the Legislature, with their opinion of the preference which should be given to either. They report that it is not now in their power to make a report in detail. This cannot be looked for from them until they have all the means which the subject is susceptible [*sic*] of furnishing necessary to satisfy the expectations of the public they deem it a sufficient reason to say, that the engineer in their employment, has been constantly and indefatigably [*sic*] engaged in the execution of the work, for nearly seven months past during which time he completed the survey of the canal and Railway lines, notwithstanding the seasons were exceeding impropitious. But their convictions Justify them in stating that the work has been executed with great pains and fidelity, and which they think merits, in reference to its acuracy the confidence of the country. It would be premature in the undersigned to say unqualfiedly, that either one of the improvements contemplated should be prefered to the other without

the aid they would derive from the estimates of the costs. But from the convictions that at present influence them, they cannot hesitate to say that a Railway on the route referred to, is decidedly preferable to a canal. The survey as made by W. Bucklin enables us to state the fact that in relation to a canal, a material part of the excavations would have to be made through rock; embracing a distance of the line, more than eight times greater than that reported in the first survey, and it is clear to the correct observer of the ground, that the very causes that would be very costly and embarrassing in making a canal would lessen the expense, and augment the facilities of a Railway. We will not before the estimates are made, anticipate the cost of either work, but we think we cannot err when we suppose that the cost of a Railway on *this route* would be *greatly* less than of a canal. The maps profiles and estimates of a Railway and Canal will be made out by Mr Bucklin without delay but which will necessarily however occupy some time to enable him to accomplish this part of his labors. But we state it as our present convictions unaided by his report, that unless there are some facts hereafter presented (which we do not now anticipate) we should feel it our duty to recommend to the Legislature the adoption of a Railway in preference to a canal. The superintending Commissioner has caused the Illinois River to be examined by the Engineer from the mouth of the Fox River to the foot of the Rapids of the Illinois. When he shall have made his estimates, if it shall be found that the Illinois River can be improved to the foot of the Rapids suited to steam boat navigation, with as much advantage, and as little expense "as a canal or Railway for the same distance" they will regard it as their duty to commence that part of the work in the spring or as early as the stage of the waters will permit. Statements of the Engineer and Superintending Commissioner are herewith respectfully submitted.

We have the hon to be very respectfully

Your most obt. servants

J. H. PUGH Prest. board Comrs.

CHAS. DUNN Act. Comr.

Bowling Green

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS Gov. of Illinois

BELLVILLE, 23d November, 1831

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

*Sir*—I have the honor herewith to transmit to you the evidence in relation to the Indian hostilities in Illinois, which you requested of me. As two persons will apply to the Genl. Government for pay for their services, I deem it proper to inform the Government, that I employed Messrs. Thomas & Stuart. The great falls of rain prevented them from collecting the testimony sooner. I have employed Mr. Hay the Clerk of the Court to copy the Original, whose Certificate will be correct that a true Copy is given. The testimony most amply contains all the statements I made to you, & will satisfy all on the subject.

With esteem I have the honor to be Yr. Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

HD. QR. WESTERN DEPARTMENT

BATON ROUGE, 26 Nov. 1831

*Dear Sir*—I have received your kind Letter of last month, advising me of the President of the United States, having written to you for information touching our late affair with the Sac Indians. In reply I hasten to send you a copy of my last Report in relation to the Sac Indians, with a Copy of the Substance of five depositions, setting forth the Causes of the movement against those Indians, the two documents embracing eleven pages, to which I have added a Note and memorandum explaining why other copies are not forwarded to you, to retain a Copy & send the enclosed to Genrl. Duncan: I did this apprehending that I should not have time before the departure of the Mail to write you this Letter.

Wishing you health and constant happiness

I am with great regard your friend,

EDMUND P. GAINES

His Excellency Governor REYNOLDS Bellville Illinois

VANDALIA, 10 Dec. 1831

*Sir*—I am requested by Governor Reynolds to acquaint your Excellency that a letter was received here a few days since

from the Sheriff of Jo Daviess County, by which it appears that George Madeira, charged with the murder of John C. Wells in the Territory of Michigan broke prison and escaped from that county on the night of the 13th Ultimo. The Sheriff's letter, dated the 20th, of which I enclose a copy, did not reach the Executive till the 6th instant, owing to the irregularities of the Mails between this place and the Northwestern extremity of our State.

Governor Reynolds has directed a proclamation to issue without delay, offering a reward for the apprehension and delivery of Madeira to the Sheriff of Galena.

I have the honor to be Sir, &c &c

His Excellency The Govr. of Michigan

CANTON, FULTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS, 4 Jan. 1832

*Dear Sir*—I have the honor to announce the receipt of yours of the 15th Dec. relative to the Organization of the Militia composing the Brigade (say 5th Brigade 1st Division) I can only say that an Election was held on the 15th October last for Brigadier General that, the returns were made previous to Genrl. Duncan leaving home. Genrl. Duncan informed Myron Philips Esq. while on his way to S. Louis that the returns were all in his Office & would be attended to immediately, so that my Commission would be forwarded without delay.

I will write to General Duncan on the subject & his Aid de camp also, but you will recollect [*sic*] the returns cannot be obtained by me & forwarded to Mr. Pricket, as directed in your Letter, they being now in the Office of General Duncan & not subject to my order. Every thing shall be done on my part to discharge the duties of the Office with promptness as soon as I shall have authority to do so. Several complaints were made to me yesterday against a body of Pottowatomies Indians (say 100) in number, hunting on the Illinois Bottoms between the mouth of Spoon River & Copperas Creek; the inhabitants accused the Indians of *stealing their hogs, burning their Hay &c*—the Indians refuse to leave the ground, & the whites are bent on driving

them away; Since writing I have heard that the Whites had caught several of them & whipped them in a most inhuman manner; Perhaps advice to the Inhabitants from the Executive would be well.

I am your Excellencies Obdt. Servt.

ISAIAH STILLMAN

BELLVILLE, 25th January, 1832

TO GENL. STILLMAN

*Sir*—Please inform the Citizens near the Indians on the Illinois River, that I have written to Genrl. Clark on the subject & that in the mean time, any lawless & violent mode of address must be abandoned for the present. If the Indians offend, they shall be treated as offenders of the law. Justice shall be administered in this case, as in all other cases with impartiality between both parties.

I am with respect Yr. Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

BELLVILLE, 25th January, 1832

GENERAL CLARK Superintendant of Indian Affairs

*Sir*—I have received a Letter from Genrl. Stillman of Canton Fulton County Illinois, that there are about One Hundred Indians in the Illinois River bottom near the mouth of the Spoon River, & that the Citizens & they are not on friendly terms.

I fear some mischief may be done. The same Letter informs me, that the Whites had whipped several of them "in a most inhuman manner."

I am extremely sorry that this disturbance has taken place. I will do all in my power to prevent like occurrences, & consider it my duty to inform you of the above; so that you may adopt such measures as you deem best to preserve peace and friendship between the Indians & Whites.

With great respect for your character I am Yr. Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

P. S. Please write me on the subject

## EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

TO GEORGE FORQUER Esq. Atty. Genrl. of Illinois

*Sir*—Having been informed by the Mayor of the City of New Orleans, that James Sullivan, alias Patrick Cavana, who was charged with the murder of Samuel Lofton, is now confined in the jail of said city. I have sent a Messenger for said Sullivan alias Cavana and will have him in Greene County in this State on or about the 20th March next. And as I am to see the Laws of the State executed, I give you the above information, to you, so you can take the necessary steps, in the discharge of your Official duties in relation to Sullivan alias Cavana.

Yr. Obdt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

Bellville Illinois February 2 1832

CANTON, FULTON COUNTY, ILLINOIS

February 2d 1832

*Dr. Sir*—I have this day received your favor of the 25th ult. requesting me to write to Major General Joseph Duncan for my Certificate of Election; which I have done by the present Mail. I wrote to S. Herdin Esqr. Aid de camp to Genrl. Duncan on receipt of your first Letter; I have received his answer, that the returns of the Election in this Brigade have been sent by him to Genrl. Whiteside, Acting Major General of the first Division. If this be the fact, some mistake has been made, or I should have had returns from the Adjutant General. Perhaps all this delay may be in consequence of not receiving all the returns from this Brigade—three Counties are only organized in the whole—Fulton, Peoria, & Jo Davies. Jo Davies held no Election. of course, it will be seen, that all the returns are in. the importance of organizing the Counties will also be seen.

I am with respect your Excellences Obt. Servt.

ISAIAH STILLMAN

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS

STATE OF ILLINOIS,  
VANDALIA, 28th March 1832

TO THE HONL. THE SECRETARY OF THE TREASURY OF THE  
UNITED STATES

*Sir*—The undersigned Commissioners of the shool [*sic*] fund of said State would respectfully solicit the following information relative to the three *per cent* school fund due this State from the United States. If the General Government would deposit on the proper authority of said Shool Commissioners the amount of three *per cent* fund due this State on the Sale of the public lands within the State in the St. Louis Branch of the State Bank.

The reason of this request is that the General Assembly of this State may at their next Session make some disposition of said School fund, and it would be more convenient to be drawn from the Bank at St. Louis, than from the City of Washington.

With esteem we are your most obt. Servt

JOHN REYNOLDS

A Copy of order to Col. Strode of the 27th Regt. Ill. Mly.

TO COL. STRODE

You are hereby authorised to organise and hold in readiness all the Militia of the County of Jo. Daviess, to march to the defence of the Country at any Moment on your order.

Should it be practicable you are empowered to raise one Company of Mounted Volunteers of fifty men to elect their Officers and range on the frontier

JOHN REYNOLDS  
Com in Chief Ills Mil

15th May, 1832

SECRETARY'S OFFICE  
FRANKFORT, KENTUCKY  
11th June, 1832

*Sir*—This State has never been furnished with the laws or session acts of the State of Illinois for the years 1818 & 1819.



All subsequent thereto have been regularly forwarded to this office, and as far as the favor may not have been reciprocated I will endeavor to make up the deficiency upon being informed of the same. If you can supply this State with copies of the laws of your State, for said years, it will be received as a favor, not only for the purpose of completing our set, but because we are actually in need of them. Your immediate attention to this will oblige.

Yours &c Respectfully

JAS. F. MACURDY, Sec. of State  
Secretary of State for the State of Illinois

WAR DEPARTMENT  
June 16th, 1832

*Sir*—On adverting to the acts of Congress on the subject of the Militia, it is found that the act of 1814 extending the terms of service of the Militia from three months to six expired with the late War. The act therefore of 1795 prescribes the duration of the service which is for the period of three months, after the troops reach the place of rendezvous. You will please to consider the requisition in my letter of yesterday respecting the time of the service as revoked and to call out such portion of the Militia of Illinois as may be necessary for the term of three months after their arrival at the place of rendezvous.

Very respectfully I am Sir Your Mo Obt. Servt

LEW CASS

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS Govr of Illinois

DEPARTMENT OF WAR  
June 21st, 1832

*Sir*—I have received your letter of the 6th Inst recommending Mr Charles D. St Vrain to the Indian Agency at Rock Island. As the information concerning the death of Mr. Felix St. Vrain seems yet doubtful, the President is unwilling to appoint a Successor till his fate is certainly known. We still indulge a faint hope that he may be living.

When the question of the appointment for that Agency comes up for determination your recommendation shall be respectfully considered.

I am Sir Very respectfully Your obt Servt

LEW CASS

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS Bellville Illinois

DEPARTMENT OF WAR

July 6th, 1832

*Sir*—I find by your letter of the 23d ultimo, that you are yet upon the frontier with the troops. When the instructions to Genl. Scott were prepared, I did not know of your intention to repair again to the theatre of operations, and therefore Genl. Scott was authorised solely to enter into the necessary arrangements with the Indians for peace and Security.

It is the wish of the President, that you should be associated him, in carrying into effect that part of the instructions which relates to negotiations with the Indians; and I have accordingly to request that you will join him in the execution of that duty.

The views of the Government have been fully made known to Genl Scott, and he has been advised to this arrangement, and requested to communicate them to you.

I have the honor to be very respectfully your Obt. Servt.

LEW CASS

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS Governor of Illinois

DEPARTMENT OF WAR

July 6th, 1832

*Sir*—I have received your letter of June 23d respecting the payment of yourself and staff for services in expeditions against the Indians during the last, and the present years.

On an examination of the law, it appears to me, not to be in my power to authorize the payment of this claim.

No provision is made for these services, nor do the acts of Congress prescribing the organisation of the Militia, provide for the personal attention of the Commander in Chief.

The Government appreciates the laudable motives which led you to devote yourself to this duty, and the zeal and attention you have displayed, and I regret it is not in my power to allow such a compensation as would be just. The only resort however which can be had is to Congress for relief.

I have the honor to be very respectfully your obt Servt

LEW CASS

His Excy JOHN REYNOLDS Gov of Illinois

TREASURY DEPARTMENT

12 July, 1832

*Sir*—I have the honor to enclose a copy of a resolution of the House of Representatives dated the 10 instant and will thank you to cause the necessary information to be furnished to enable me to comply with its requirements.

I have the honor respectfully to be Sir, your obt. servant

LOUIS McLANE,

Secretary of the Treasury

His Excellency The Governor of Illinois

HEAD QUARTERS NORTH WESTERN ARMY

CHICAGO, July 15, 1832

*Sir*—To prevent or to *correct* the exaggerations of rumor, in respect to the existence of cholera at this place, I address myself to your Excellency. Four steamers were engaged at Buffalo to transport United States troops & supplies to Chicago. In the headmost of these boats, The Sheldon Thompson, I, with my staff, & four companies, a part of Col. Eustis's command, arrived here on the night of the 10th instant. On the 8th all on board were in high health & spirits; but the next morning six cases of undoubted cholera presented themselves. The disease rapidly spread itself for the next three days. About 120 persons have been affected more or less with it; fifty have died & forty are convalescent. The few new cases which have occurred, since the 12th have been of a milder type.

The whole of the infected battalion is confined to the limits of Fort Dearborn—the former garrison (Major Whistler & two companies) having, before the landing, marched out, & encamped at a safe distance.

Most of the inhabitants fled from this place on hearing that we had brought the cholera with us; but finding that the few remaining & Major Whistler's command, remain uninfected, the citizens are inspired with confidence & are, many of them, returning.

Humanity & policy have equally dictated the measures I have adopted to prevent the spread of the disease; & with a view to ulterior operations, in the field, I have separated myself & staff from the fort & the region of the probable infection.

I am now waiting the arrival of three other steamers with troops & supplies, the *Henry Clay*, the *Superior* & *Wm. Penn.* I have received no news from either since my departure from Detroit, the 5th instant. It is probable that one or more of them will arrive here with cholera on board. If so the same sanitary measures will be adopted in respect to the infected troops on their landing. The *sick* will be placed in hospital & the *well* encamped apart. By constantly separating the one from the other, & keeping the whole four battalions & detachments which have not had the disease, a portion *may*, after some weeks, be so thoroughly disinfected as to be allowed to take the field.

Under a late act of Congress six companies of Rangers are to be raised & marched to this place. General Dodge of Michigan is appointed Major of the battalion, & I have seen the names of the captains; but I do not know where to address them. I am afraid that the reports, from this place, in respect to cholera, may seriously retard the raising of this force. I wish, therefore, that your Excellency would give publicity to the measures I have adopted to prevent the spread of the disease, & of my determination not to allow any junction or communication between the uninfected & infected troops. The war is not at an end, & may not be brought to a close in some time. The Rangers may reach the theatre of operations in time to give the final

blow. As they approach me, say at this place, I shall take care of their health & general wants.

I write in great haste, & may not have time to cause my letter to be copied. It will be put into some post office to the South.

I have the honor to be, yr. Excellency's  
most obt. servt.

WINFIELD SCOTT

His Ex. Gov. REYNOLDS, or Acting Govr. of Ill.

BELLVILLE, ILLINOIS

July 20th, 1832

*Sir*—It may be servicable to the Government to be informed of the situation of the Army, and the country in relation to the Indian War.

The army by order of Genl. Atkinson marched from Fort Wilburn on the Illinois River to Dixons on Rock River at which place one division of it, consisting of two brigades of mounted Volunteers marched in the country between Rock River and the Wisconsin towards the four Lakes or the Quaskeenon Lake, where it was reported the enemy had fortified and would fight.

The other division of the army with myself and staff marched on the South East side of Rock River to the same point. The horsemen packed on their horses fifteen days provision, and the same number of days supply was conveyed for the infantry.

The Indian enemy left this encampment some days before the army reached it, and continued their march up Rock River in a North East direction.

The provisions being exhausted, the army were compelled to Suspend active operations, and to encamp on Rock River at the Mouth of White Water, about one hundred and thirty Miles North East of Galena. Two brigades were ordered to Fort Winebago and one to Fort Hamilton for Supplies.

In this situation of the Army when it had ceased active operations, on the 16th Inst. I left the Camp and returned to

the frontiers of the State to see if that necessary protection was given to the inhabitants which was contemplated, And have the satisfaction to inform you that the defence of the frontier is as complete as the nature and extent of our border will admit.

On the whole extent of our frontier and in the Mining district of country, there are forts erected, and the intermediate Country ranged over and guarded by Mounted Men, yet it is impossible to prevent all depredations, which may be committed on so extensive a frontier as that which surrounds the settlements of this State.

On my return I passed thro' the Mining Country, and saw the distress of the people of that section. They are all fortified, and are not able to raise crops sufficient to support themselves, nor can they work in the mining business. I fear many of them will be compelled to abandon the country for want of provisions so that the mining district is in a situation, that claims the attention of the Government. The same thing may be said in some degree of all the frontiers of the State. Many citizens on the Illinois River have been compelled to leave their plantations and seek shelter in forts.

The privations and sufferings of the citizens I know as I have been nearly all the time on the frontier, or marching the Army since the middle part of April last.

In some cases I ordered provisions to be issued to families who were driven off from their homes in distress by the Indians. And I do sincerely recommend to the Government to issue provisions to certain citizens, who are in want of support occasioned by the enemy. I would further suggest for your consideration the propriety of erecting forts for temporary purposes in the country where the hostile Indians were located. These forts would prevent from again locating themselves in such positions from which they could annoy the settlements. The country where the Army is encamped is partly covered with swamps which are almost impassible for man or beast. The enemy in this country will have a decided advantage so that it will be extremely difficult to overtake him. All exertion which was in the power of the Army was used to accomplish this desirable

object; but to no purpose. I have been in the pursuit since the early spring and will continue to contribute all in my power to bring the war to an honorable close with all public speed.

I had the honor of receiving your two letters of the 6th Inst and will after attending to some official business at the seat of Government repair to the frontier and to the army again in order to associate myself with Genl. Scott in executing the views of the Government in regard to negotiations with the Indians should that opportunity occur.

ASST. QUARTER MASTER'S OFFICE

SAINT LOUIS, August 6th, 1832

*Dear Sir*—I have the honor to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 4th Inst. on the subject of rations furnished by Mr Atchinson, and your contemplated departure for the frontier. In answer to which I have the Pleasure to state, that I have made Mr Atchinson an advance of \$5,000, estimating the cost of the ration at 13 1-4 cents and deferred the final settlement of the accounts until the requisite evidence both as to the actual cost, as well as the delivery of the rations shall be received.

I annex a statement of pay, allowances to Commissioners while travelling to and holding treaties with Indians in which you will perceive that reasonable expenses are allowed by the Government, the waggoner certainly would be allowed, and as to the escort would it not be advisable to obtain it at Fort Wilburn.

I transmit to you herewith abstracts & receipts of stores furnished by Col. John Taylor of Springfield, to companies of volunteers from the Southern Counties on their way to Ottawa, each of the abstracts requires your signature in support of the propriety of the purchase, which do me the favour to affix, and return them together with the receipts which accompany them, by the Mail of tomorrow.

I have written to the War Department on the Subject of the compensation to yourself and staff for services rendered during the last and<sup>d</sup> present year, as soon as the result is made known to me you shall be promptly informed of it.

Wishing you health and prosperity a successful trip & speedy return.

I am Sir with high respect Your Mo. Obt. Servt.

J. B. BRANT

A. G. L. A.

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS Bellville Ill.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

August 7th, 1832

TO THE HONL "THE BOARD OF CANAL COMMISSIONERS OF THE ILLINOIS AND MICHIGAN CANAL"

I conceive it to be my duty respectfully to call your attention to my former Circular, requesting of you a report of all your proceedings in relation to said Canal.

The 5th section of the act passed 15th Feby 1831, enacts, that "the said Board of Canal Commissioners shall hold two annual meetings at such time and place, as they may think proper, and may convene at any time they may think advisable in case of emergency at the request of the superintending Commissioner. A majority of said Board exclusive of the superintending Commissioner shall constitute a quorum to do business. They shall inspect the accounts, books, state of the Treasury, and all the proceedings of the Treasurer, and superintending commissioner, and report the same to the Governor who shall lay the same before the Legislature for their examination."

The public feel a lively interest in every thing that relates to said Canal, and therefore I hope, you will report to me with convenient speed; so that the progress, the expenditure of money, and the situation of the canal, or whether the construction of a Rail Road will not be preferable "may be laid before the people, before the Meeting of the Genl. Assembly of this State."

This will enable the people thro' the Medium of their Representatives in Genl. Assembly to act on the subject in such manner as will advance the public good.

With respect Your obt. Servt

JOHN REYNOLDS

Gov.



YELLOW BANKS, August 16th, 1832

*Major Bogart*—I am informed that a competent Physician, Doct. Whiting Anable, is now attending on the sick in the Mounted Volunteer Company commanded by Capt. James White at the Des Moines Rapids, on the Mississippi. The detachment situated [north?] of your Battalion, extending from the above named rapids up the river to this place, then east on the frontier of Beaureau settlement requiring more Surgeons than in ordinary cases, I would therefore recommend to you in order to advance the public service to appoint Doct. Anable as an additional assistant Surgeon in Your Battallion for the troops stationed on the Mississippi below the Yellow Banks.

With respect I am your obt. servt

JOHN REYNOLDS

NEW YORK, Augt. 18th, 1832

TO HIS EXC. JOHN REYNOLDS Governor &c &c

*Sir*—Having placed the Documents in relation to loan of the State in the hands of Mr. Delafield, together with your letter of Attorney appointing him agent for the State. He informs us that the act provides for the payment of the interest semi-annually at such places within the United States as may be agreed upon, between the Governor and the persons contracting.

By the contract with Mr Wiggins it is declared that the "Interest shall be payable Semi annually at the City Bank of the City of New York or any other Bank of the City of New York that the Governor of Illinois may at any time designate" & etc. Thus the act recognises the contract & the latter expressly requires a Designation of a Bank other than the City Bank. Under these circumstances it is believed that Mr Delafield cannot issue Certificates in proper form until he receives from you under seal the designation of the Phenix Bank as the office where the interest on the loan shall be paid. In all other respects he is satisfied and is preparing the necessary forms.

Permit us to solicit from your Excellency an early attention to this request, as you will readily perceive an inconvenience to us as holding a stock not at present transferable.

We are yr. mo. obt Servts

J. D. BEERS & Co.

ROCK ISLAND, Sept. 13, 1832

MAJOR GENERAL SCOTT

*Sir*—I am informed that there is an Indian in imprisonment by your order in Fort Armstrong in the State of Illinois, who is charged with the murder of a citizen of the State in Warren County, and that you are desirous to deliver him over to the civil authorities of the State for his trial for murder. Therefore I have the honor to inform you that the Circuit Court for the County of Warren, the county in which the murder is said to be committed, will commence its session on the thursday next after the 4<sup>th</sup> Monday in October next, at Monmouth in said County. At which time and place, the Court having jurisdiction of the Case, the prisoner, or others if any there be tried. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of sending to the Court the necessary witnesses, and an Interpreter, so that the trial may progress without delay.

The State Authorities will receive and try said prisoner, as I am certain the Court has jurisdiction in such Cases.

With sincere respect and esteem I am Your obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS  
Gov. of Ill.

BELLVILLE, ILLINOIS, Oct. 4, 1832

TO THE HONL. LEWIS CASS, Secy. of War

*Sir*—I have certified and have the honor to present you with some of the Muster Rolls of the Militia Infantry in service for the protection of the frontier of the Mining District.

It is well known to you, the exposed situation of Galena and the adjacent Mineral Country. During some part of the summer, the whole force of the enemy seemed to fall on the region of country. And of consequence it became necessary to use a corresponding degree of defence. The defensive measures must of necessity be commensurate with the danger. And taking all things into consideration, I have no hesitation in stating; that it was necessary to adopt such policy as was pursued, and that all the companies that were organized and in service were necessary.

Moreover, it became necessary in order to advance the service, so as to meet the exigency of the case to press horses into the service, and thereby to raise a few mounted companies to range on the frontiers. The exposed situation of the country the great distance, the mineral country is from the densely populated parts of the state, and the scarcity of horses in the mining district all conspired to justify such course of policy.

With sincere respect I have the honor to be Your obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

DEPARTMENT OF WAR

October 11, 1832

*Sir*—Your letter of the 1st instant is received, and mine of this date will inform you of the receipt of the treaties referred to, and of the views of the Department in relation to them.

The muster rolls of Captains Covell and Warrick's companies have been referred to the Pay master general for the usual examination, and action of his department.

In regard to the Kickapoo Indians, I have to request, that you would informally ascertain whether they are willing to enter into an arrangement for the cession of their lands in Illinois, and for their removal West of the Mississippi River, and if they are, authority will be given to you to negotiate a treaty for that purpose. You will take such measures to ascertain their feelings upon this subject as may be deemed the most advisable.

I have the honor to be, very respectfully, your obedt. servt.

LEWIS CASS

His Excellency, JOHN REYNOLDS, Gov. of Illinois

DEPARTMENT OF WAR

October 11th, 1832

*Sir*—I have received the reports of the Commissioners, together with the treaties of cession negotiated with the Sac & Fox, and with the Winnebago Indians.

These treaties are very satisfactory and I trust they will secure the peace of that frontier, and place our Indian relations upon a permanent foundation.

Very respectfully, I have the honor to be, your obt. svt.

LEWIS CASS

His Excellcy, JOHN REYNOLDS, Belleville, Ills.

STATE OF ILLINOIS

BELLEVILLE, 26th Oct., 1832

TO THE HON. LEWIS CASS, Secty of War of the U. S.

*Sir*—I had the honor on yesterday of receiving your three letters of the 11th inst, and I am well pleased that the treaties made with the Indians on Rock Island are satisfactory to the Government. The Commissioners in the negotiations and treaties, wished to advance the interest and honor of the Government, and in effecting these objects, justice and mercy must be extended to the Indians. How far they have succeeded is for the public to decide. I will observe that Genl. Scott, justly possessing such high military standing as he does, together with his enlightened and scientific views of our Government, and it's policy, was a very efficient Commissioner and it may be added, that mercy for the unfortunate Indian, is conspicuous in all his actions.

I will ascertain if the Kickapoo Indians wish to remove to the West of the Mississippi. I understand that those Indians were at St. Louis, in council with Genl. Clark, the superintendant; but the result I do not know.

I will do myself the honor to lay before you as early as practicable, all the information I can procure relative to those Indians.

The removal of these and the Pottawatomie Indians is very interesting to the people of this State. For this reason I feel it my duty in my official situation to lay this subject before you and to say to you that I will do all in my power to effect so desirable an object.

To shew you more fully the necessity of removing these Indians, Genl. Atkinson informed me that there are three

Pottawattomie Indians at Jefferson Barracks, who confessed they were of the party who murdered the families on Indian Creek, in May last.

As Genl. Atkinson will deliver these Indians over to the civil authority of Illinois, I will send them to the proper county, for their trial for murder.

I have the honor to be, your obt. servt., and friend

JOHN REYNOLDS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

BELLEVILLE, 26th October, 1832

TO BRIGADIER GENERAL, HENRY ATKINSON

*Sir*—I had the honor to receive your letter of the 9th inst. informing me that you had in custody three Pottawattomie Indians who were concerned in the murder of the citizens of Illinois on Indian Creek in La Salle County, and as they are amenable to the laws of the State for their crimes, I have authorized and empowered Capt. A. W. Snyder<sup>1</sup> and John D. Whiteside Esqr., to receive of you, said Indians, and convey them to the Sheriff of said County of La Salle. Any voucher or document you may require of them, on the delivery of the Indians, these gentlemen are also authorized to give you.

With sincere respect, I am, your obt. servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

BELLEVILLE, 26th Oct. 1832

*Dear Sir*—As I have no doubt, the Pottawattomie Indians, who are confined in Jefferson Barracks, are liable to the laws of

1. Adam Wilson Snyder: born, October 6, 1799, at Connellsville, Pennsylvania; 1815, emigrated to Columbus, Ohio; June 1817, arrived at Cahokia, Illinois, where he worked for J. B. Thomas and studied law; February 1820, admitted to the bar; October 18, 1820, married Adelaide Perry at Prairie du Pont; December 28, 1830-February 16, 1831, state senator to finish short term caused by death of Risdon Moore; 1832-36, state senator from St. Clair County; 1831-33, served in Black Hawk War as private, adjutant and captain; 1833, removed to Belleville; 1834, unsuccessful congressional candidate; 1837-39, congressional representative; 1838, unsuccessful congressional candidate; 1840, presidential elector; 1840-42, state senator from St. Clair County; 1842, Democratic candidate for governor; May 14, 1842, died at home in Belleville and lies buried in Green Mount Cemetery near that city.—Snyder, J. F., *Adam W. Snyder*, Virginia, Illinois, 1906.

the State of Illinois for their offences, I have concluded with your approbation, to send them to LaSalle County for their trial. I have written to the Sheriff of that County to prepare for their reception. The law of this State requires the Judge to call a Court in such cases, which may be effected this fall. Please write me on the subject, and should you deem the course proper, I will send for them to the Barracks, and have them conveyed to LaSalle County for their trial.

With respect, I am, your obt. servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

Brigadier General HENRY ATKINSON

CASTOR HILL, NEAR ST. LOUIS

Oct. 31st, 1832

*Dear Sir*—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your favor of the 26th inst: and have the pleasure to inform you that a treaty has been concluded with the Prophet's Band from Vermillion river in your state; and that the whole of that band consisting of about 250 souls, accompanied by about 150 Pottawatomies, who were living with them, and are now on their departure from this place to the Lands assigned them by treaty near the Kansas river.

They have all I believe, left your state, with the exception probably of a few individuals, who are stated by the Indians here, to have left the main body of Black Hawk's army, about the time of it's defeat, and who are supposed to be near Chicago. They are stated at about 8 men & as many women.

The claims of the Kickapoos to Lands in Illinois & Missouri have been extinguished—also those of the Shawanees & Delawares, Peorias, Piankeshaws, Weas & Kaskaskias,—to lands in both states, with the exception of a reservation made by the last named tribe of 350 acres for the heirs of DeCoigne, near the town of Kaskaskia, & which was confirmed to them many years since, by Congress.

Accept my Dr. Sir, my sincere wishes for your prosperity, and believe me, most respectfully yr. obt. servt.

WM. CLARK

His Excellcy. GOVR. REYNOLDS

STATE OF ILLINOIS  
VANDALIA, 6th Dec. 1832

TO THE HON. LEWIS CASS Sec'y of War

*Sir*—My feelings of gratitude strongly urge me, to express my friendship to you and other officers of the government, whose kindness procured for me and my staff pay for our services last summer; I am much more pleased on account of my staff, than myself. And as to myself the pecuniary consideration, altho' I am not wealthy is to me not so grateful, as the decided approbation of the Government, on my course in the late war.

I see in the instructions to Maj. Andrews, that one of my staff, the paymaster, is, I supposed, presumed by his office to have done nothing, and therefore not to be paid. I take a pleasure in stating: that my staff performed duties indiscriminately, whatever was commanded them by me, and I am proud to say, performed them with cheerfulness and firmness for the good of the service. And it required such service to organize three or four thousand volunteers, within from three to five days. Many of these volunteers continued all summer to act under my command, and performed service to my satisfaction, and to the satisfaction of their Country. In this service I required, and had the aid of my staff, who acted and performed duties generally, and not confined to the precise duties prescribed to their offices.

I regret much that every individual in the army would receive the approbation of the Government by being paid, except the Paymaster in my staff, and I hope you will take his case into consideration and order it paid. This will be very grateful to

Your friend and Huml. servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS  
VANDALIA, Dec. 8th, 1832

TO THE HON. LEWIS M LANE Secretary of the Treasury of the  
United States

*Sir*—If it be convenient permit me to request you, to transmit to this Department the whole amount of the 3 per cent

fund due to this State from the General Government, from the 30th June 1831. The General Assembly of this State is now in session and will perhaps wish to be officially informed of the amount of money appropriated for school purposes which is due the State on the sales of Public Lands.

With respect I have the Honour to be &c

JOHN REYNOLDS

VANDALIA, Dec. 8th, 1832

*Dear Sir*—I have procured and enclosed to the Cashier of the Phenix Bank in the City of New York a check or draft on the United States Bank for three thousand dollars. This sum is ordered to be applied to the payment to you of the semi-annual interest on the loan, which you will receive according to the contract on the first of January next. The draft is indorsed in blank by the commissioners of the School Fund; so that you can fill it up to suit your convenience.

Respectfully Your Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

MR. J. D. BEERS

P.S. Please inform me of your receipt of the above letter. should the letter to the cashier of the Phenix Bank (enclosing the draft) miscarry there is a duplicate of the draft which will be forwarded—No. of draft 1462, date St. Louis Dec. 5th 1832. Signed H. S. Coxe, and indorsed by John Reynolds, Gov. J. T. B. Stapp<sup>1</sup>, Audr. and A. P. Field, Sec. of State.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS

VANDALIA, Dec. 8th, 1832

TO THE CASHIER OF THE PHENIX BANK in the City of New York

*Sir*—Enclosed I transmit to you a check of three thousand dollars on the United States Bank in the City of New York in

1. James T. B. Stapp: born, April 13, 1804, in Woodford County, Kentucky; 1814, moved to Kaskaskia, Illinois; 1824, clerk in office of state auditor; August 29, 1831-November 16, 1835, state auditor; 1832, aid-de-camp of Governor Reynolds in Black Hawk War; 1845, adjutant of Third Illinois Volunteers in Mexican War; 1850-55, receiver of public money at Vandalia; 1857, removed to Decatur; 1876, died.—*Historical Encyclopedia of Illinois*.



favour of Mr. J. D. Beers to pay the semiannual interest on the loan which this State made at the last session of the General Assembly; the check is indorsed in blank; so you can arrange it to accomplish the above object.

I am your Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

VANDALIA, Dec. 12th, 1832

TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

*Sir*—In compliance with a resolution of the General Assembly of this State; and in the discharge of my constitutional duty, I have the honour to call your attention to the subject of the murder of one of our citizens, by some of the United Tribes of Sac & Fox Indians; and respectfully request you to cause the murderers to be delivered over to the Civil authorities of the State for their trial. During the last summer a citizen Mr Martin was killed in the County of Warren in this State by some of said Indians. The Indians who committed the murder were a part of the band of the Sac and Fox Indians, who were at the time in peace with the Government of the United States, and did not appertain to the War Party. One of the Indians was delivered by the Nation to the Military authority at Fort Armstrong, for his trial for murder; but before the session of the court he escaped from the troops of the United States. This policy to demand and cause to be delivered all offenders against the laws, for trial, will much better secure peace and friendship to the citizens, and the Indians, than to resort to retaliation. Therefore in the name and by the authority of the State of Illinois, I respectfully request you to cause to be delivered to the civil authority of the State, all those Indians of the Sac and Fox nation who were concerned in the murder of said Martin in Warren County, so that they may be tried for murder according to Law.

With the highest sentiments of respect I have the honour to be

Your most obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

VANDALIA, Dec. 13th, 1832

TO THE HON. LEWIS CASS Secretary of War

*Sir*—General Dodge will be so kind as to hand to you this letter and a report made by certain Commissioners relative to the outrages of the Pottowattomie Indians. You will see by the report, and such explanatory remarks as the General may make, that the Indians are yet troublesome on our frontiers, and will continue their disturbances, until they are removed to the West of the Mississippi. They are now willing to exchange their country for one to the west. This I presume could be effected next season. The country which in my opinion would best suit them is bounded on the West by the Missouri River and on the East by the Sac and Fox Territory, and is above the Kansas River. Permit me to suggest respectfully to you the necessity of stationing some part of the Rangers at Quoshkenong Lake on Rock River in the spring as soon as the grass will support the horses. A force at this place will cause the Winnebagoes to move in peace, if the treaty should be ratified, and it will likewise keep the other Indians in subjection and perhaps prevent another war with them; as it is found that the Winnebagoes and Pottowatomies are forming combinations to resist the Government. I enclose to you the account of the commissioners, which will I presume be paid by the United States as the information contained in the report is necessary to be known by the General Government. The fact that the Indians are willing to exchange their country is interesting. Major Curry was appointed by General Atkinson, the others by me: yet in conversation with the General before the appointment; he wished me to appoint some persons to see and report the facts; so that he would know whether it would be necessary to send the Rangers to the scene of disturbance. I have sent him a copy of the Report.

I have the honour to be Your Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

VANDALIA, Dec. 13th, 1832

To MAJOR DODGE Commanding Battalion Mounted Rangers

*Sir*—Certain Commissioners, some employed by General Atkinson, and others by me, have this day reported to me that the Indians on the frontier of this State in the counties of Putman and La Salle on the Illinois River have committed some outrages, in stealing horses, killing hogs, burning haystacks, and putting the people in alarm and fear; so much so that the citizens of that part of the State consider themselves insecure, and are disposed, if not protected, to leave their homes and the country—or in case no protection be offered them they may rise to redress their own injuries, so that blood may be shed, and the peace of the State endangered. I am informed that forage for horses and provisions are plenty in those counties. I would respectfully suggest the propriety of permitting some of the United States Rangers to be stationed in one of those counties to protect said frontier. I am also informed that there may be one hundred and fifty Warriors in that vicinity, who do not deport themselves in a friendly manner towards the Whites. I consider it my duty thus to state to you the above facts, and from your known character to afford protection to the weak, I have no doubt that all the protection within your power will be given to the citizens on that frontier.

I have the honour to be Your friend &amp; Servant

JOHN REYNOLDS

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, Dec. 17th, 1832

To HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

*Sir*—I am officially informed, that the Indians of the Pottowattomie Nation, who were in confinement in the County of La Salle, in this State, on a charge of murder, made their escape. These Indians were taking prisoners in the last summer's campaign, and delivered over to the civil authorities of this State by Genl. Atkinson for their trial. Being in possession of these facts, I consider it my duty on the part of the State to

request, respectfully, that you cause said Indians to be delivered to the civil authorities of the State for their trial. They will be received by the proper officer of the State at any time, when it may be convenient to you to deliver them.

I have the honour to be Your Obt. Servant

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, 17th Dec., 1832

TO THE PRESIDENT AND DIRECTORS OF THE STATE BANK OF  
ILLINOIS

*Gentlemen*—Enclosed I lay before you a copy of a resolution of the House of Representatives and respectfully solicit your immediate compliance with the request in said resolution, and to report to me with all convenient speed. I am informed two of the Cashiers of the Branch Banks have performed their duty under the act 15th Feby. 1831, and delivered over the books &c so far as you are able you will report and state to me also those who have failed to perform their duty.

I am your Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, Dec. 17th, 1832

TO MESS. WHITLOCK, BROWN & DAVIS, Arbitrators or Referees

*Gentlemen*—Permit me to present you with a copy of a resolution of the House of Representatives and respectfully request you to state to me all the information which you may be able to collect from the Bank books of the State Bank of Illinois, which I am informed are in your possession, and from other official sources relative to the requests contained in said resolution.

I am Your Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

## GENERAL LAND OFFICE

21st Decemr. 1832

*Sir*—Your letter of the 18<sup>th</sup> October last to the Secretary of the Treasury, transmitting a further list of selections of Seminary lands under the provisions of the act of Congress, approved on the 2d March 1831, having been referred to this office.

I have the honor to state to you that the Secretary in his communication to this office on the 15<sup>th</sup> Septemr. last on the subject of the selections to be made under the provisions of the act referred to, decides that the locations are to be made on public land, within the State of Illinois, the sale of which is authorized by proclamation of the President.

Townships No. 22 & 23 of Range No. 4 in the Danville District has not yet been proclaimed for sale, consequently the selections made therein cannot now be approved. The selections in the Springfield District, being in Townships which have been offered at public sale are approved, they are as follows, viz.

Sections 3 & 4.....	In Town 20 N. R. 1 W.
N. E. qr. of Sect. 5.....	In Town 20 N. R. 1 W.
West half of Sect. 2.....	In Town 20 N. R. 1 W.
South East $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sect. 32.....	In Town 21 N. R. 1 W.
South West $\frac{1}{4}$ of Sect. 33.....	In Town 21 N. R. 1 W.
South half of Sect. 22.....	In Town 22 N. R. 5 W.

The Land offices at Springfield have been requested to reserve those lands from sale.

I have the honor to be, Sir, Yr. Most obt St.

JNO. M. MOORE,  
Asst. Commr.

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS Governor of Illinois, Vandalia

## TREASURY DEPARTMENT

24<sup>th</sup> December, 1832

*Sir*—I have received your letter of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant requesting a remittance of the amount of the 3 p. ct. fund due to the State of Indiana, and have this day referred the same to the Commissioner of the General Land Office for his report on the case to

the first Comptroller of the Treasury, upon receipt of whose final decision thereon, a remittance will be made as requested by you.

I am with great respect Your obt. Servt

LOUIS McLANE

Secretary of the Treasury

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS, Governor of the State of Illinois,  
Vandalia

PHENIX BANK

NEW YORK, 24<sup>th</sup> Decr. 1832

TO HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN REYNOLDS, Vandalia, Illinois

*Sir*—Your favour of the 8<sup>th</sup> instant covering a draft on the Branch B. of the U. S. in this City for \$3000, to pay the Semi-annual loan, of your State, is received and shall have due attention.

Respectfully Yours

J. DELAFIELD, Cashr.

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, Dec. 27<sup>th</sup> 1832

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT OF THE UNITED STATES

*Sir*—The enclosed copy of the Record of the Circuit Court of Warren Co. refers to the same Indians, charged with the murder of Mr. Martin in said county for whose apprehension, I had the honor to address you a letter dated the 12 inst. respectfully requesting their delivery to the civil authority of this State for their trial.

I have the honour to be Your most obt. Servt

JOHN REYNOLDS

STATE OF ILLINOIS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, Decr. 29<sup>th</sup>, 1832

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF INDIANA

*Sir*—By virtue of a joint resolution of the General Assembly of this State. it becomes my duty to correspond with your

Excellency on the subject of the improvement of the navigation of the Great Wabash River. This duty I perform with pleasure, as it will tend to improve the means of commerce on that river, which will add much to the prosperity of the citizens residing near it. The country, thro' which this river flows is extremely fertile and produces, even in its present state of cultivation, immense quantities of grain and other articles for market. A great portion of this produce would be almost useless to the farmer or merchant, if there were no means of its conveyance to market by water. The Legislatures of this State at every session have manifested a laudible spirit to encourage the internal improvement of the country so far as their means would justify.

This policy is sanctioned and confirmed by the people. Some years since the Legislature being well satisfied of the importance of the improvement of the navigation of this river, appropriated the money arising from the sales of the first ten thousand acres of the Vermillion Saline lands. This sum amounts to \$11985.16, and is now ready to be applied on that object for which it was appropriated. In the act of the General Assembly making the appropriation, it is presumed, that the State of Indiana will appropriate funds for this common work of improvement. Indiana is equally, or even more, interested than Illinois, in the improvement of this river. And in the same proportion will, I presume, contribute her means to promote the improvement. Should the State of Indiana view this work in the same light as the State of Illinois does, and contribute a sum of money equal to that appropriated by Illinois, these sums together judiciously applied to this improvement by competent officers, authorized by each state, would much improve the navigation of this river, which would be of great public utility. But the sum which would be furnished by Illinois, would not be sufficient to justify the commencement of the work. I would therefore most respectfully call your attention to this interesting subject and "thro' you " solicit the co-operation of the state of Indiana in this common and interesting work of internal improvement. I would further respectfully request you to communicate with me on this subject at as early a period as may suit

your convenience; so that I can lay your views, which will, I presume, be those of your state, before the present session of the General Assembly.

I have the honor to be Your Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, Dec. 29<sup>th</sup> 1832

TO WILLIS HARGRAVE, JAMES CALDWELL AND WILLIAM REED  
(each)

*Sir*—Enclosed I transmit to you a copy of a resolution of the Senate requesting certain information relative to the Salines in this State. You will without delay forward to me all the information requested in said resolution, which is officially in your possession; so that I may lay the same forthwith before the Senate.

With respect I am Yr. Mo. Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

DEPARTMENT OF WAR

December 29, 1832

*Sir*—Your letter of the 12<sup>th</sup> instant to the President of the United States, has been referred to this Department, and I have the honor to inform you the necessary instructions have been given to General Clark and General Atkinson to procure the surrender of the murderers of Mr. Martin, and to deliver them to the proper civil authority in Illinois.

I have the honor to be very respectfully

Your obedt servant

LEWIS CASS

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS, Gov. of Illinois, Vandalia

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

VANDALIA, 2d Jan. 1833

TO THE REGR. AND REC. LAND OFFICE at Shawneetown

*Gentlemen*—I have been called on by a resolution of the Senate, among other things for the quantity of Land reserved



for the use of the Salines in Gallatin County, and as there is no document in this office by which I can have the exact quantity and description of those lands. Therefore I respectfully request you to transmit to this Office at as early a period as possible, the quantity of Land so reserved and the description thereof, so I can lay the same before the Senate.

With respect I am your Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

GALENA, January 17th, 1833

*Dear Sir*—The Northern boundary party arrived in this place last evening in good health—having completed the full work of the line, notwithstanding the many difficulties, we were forced to encounter, we shall endeavour to make all possible speed in making out the paper part, which when done I shall endeavor to leave this place for home in company with Capt. Braley, and perhaps young Mr. Elliott Hopkins—I cannot now go into any detail on the subject of said line, believing it to be too lengthy for a half sheet.

With respectful sentiments, I subscribe,

JOHN MESSINGER

Governor JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
VANDALIA, 19<sup>th</sup> Jany. 1833

TO THE QUARTER MASTER GENERAL COL. EDDY

*Sir*—Enclosed I send you a copy of a resolution—the information required you will report to me without delay.

Your obt Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

ALLEGHENY ARSENAL, PA.

GENERAL H. EDDY, Qr. Mr General, Illinois

*Sir*—Capt J R Butler having refered to me your letter of the 28th ultimo I have forwarded to your address at Shawneetown, Three Hundred Harpers Ferry Rifles and to the address of Mr.

Christy at Illinois town opposite St. Louis Three Hundred Harpers Ferry Rifles, One hundred pairs of pistols, One hundred pairs of Holsters, One hundred Sabres and one hundred Sabre Belts.

I have likewise forwarded a copy of your letter to the Ordnance Department with the request that instructions may be given for an additional supply of Arms to be forwarded to your State.

I have deemed it unnecessary to send Muskets to Mr Christy there being already in depot, at the St. Louis Arsenal a sufficient number to meet the calls of the State of Illinois.

There not being at the present time any Rifle Equipments on hand at this Arsenal, none can of course be furnished; but it is presumed that the volunteers in whose hands the arms are to be placed, will readily supply themselves with pouches and flasks.

Having thus far complied with your request upon my own responsibility, I wish to enjoin the condition, that the arms whether they shall be used or not, in the present campaign, shall be held by the State, subject to any further orders of the Ordnance Department.

I have the honor to be verry respectfully your obt Servt.

R. L. BAKER  
Maj U. S. Army

Received from Henry Eddy, Quarter Master General of Illinois Militia, by the hands of James Peebles, one hundred and forty stand of Harpers Ferry rifles, complete in seven boxes, which I obligate myself to return to the deposit in Vandalia, whenever required by the said Eddy, or the Governor of the State (the State paying the expense of transportation) unless the same should be lost in actual service, in time of war, insurrection or invasion. And in the meantime that they shall be taken care of, and kept in like good order as now received. Sept. 20th 1832.

ISAAC R. MOORES  
Col. 30th Regt Ill. Mil

I guaranty the due fulfilment of the above undertaking.

D. W. BECKWITH

VANDALIA, Feby 9th, 1833

TO GENL. CLARK Supt. of Indian Affairs

*Sir*—I enclose to you a copy of a letter which was sent to me. The citizens whose names are subscribed I am informed are respectable.

I have the honor to be Your obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

TO GEORGE FORQUER ESQ Atty. General of Illinois

*Sir*—Having been informed by the Mayor of the city of New Orleans that James Lulbodu alias Patrick Cavana who was charged with the murder of Samuel Lofton is now confined in the jail of said city. I have sent a Messenger for said Lulbodualias Cavana and will have him in Green County in this State on or about the 20th March next and as I am to see the laws of this State executed I give you the above information so you can take the necessary steps in the discharge of your official duties in relation to said Lulbodu alias Cavana.

Your obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS

BELLEVILLE, ILLINOIS, Feby. 27th, 1832

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

STATE OF ILLINOIS

TO GOVERNOR ZADOK CASEY.

12th March, 1833

You are hereby authorised and respectfully requested to examine and carefully ascertain the extent, quantity, and quality of salt water which has been recently discovered in Jefferson County in this State, and likewise to ascertain the quantity of timbered land that may be *necessary* for the manufactory of salt at the late discovery in said County, and report with convenient speed to me the result of your labors and investigation on the above subjects; so that I may lay the same before the President of the United States, for his action.

With esteem and respect, I am yr. Obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS  
Gov. of Illinois.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON, March 25th, 1833

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—By the enclosed resolution of the Senate, your Excellency will perceive that one of the [items] embraced in my circular of the 25th June last, (the number of Militia) is particularly required to be returned—and that the other items may be considered as included under the general expression of the resolution. This Legislative sanction given to my former request, enables me with more confidence to solicit a compliance with it on the part of your Excellency at as early a day as may be convenient. Lest my former circular may have been mislaid, I have the honor to enclose another copy.

I have the honor to be etc

EDW LIVINGSTON

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, INDIANA

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, 29th April, 1833

*Sir*—Your communication to his Excellency the Governor of this State, informing him of the appropriation made by Illinois towards improving the navigation of the Wabash river, was received in due time, and the subject laid before the General Assembly, which was then in session. A Bill was introduced on the subject, but owing to a difference of opinion, between the two houses, in regard to it's details, no appropriation was made.

The immense advantage that must result from a united effort of this kind, to the agriculture and Commerce of the rich and extensive Country bordering on the Upper Wabash, furnishes strong evidences to believe that the liberal and enlightened policy manifested by Illinois in this appropriation will be responded to by Indiana, in a manner not less honorable to her.

I have the honor to be, With great respect, your Excellency's most obedient, and most humble servant.

WM. SHEETS

To his Excellency, Gov. REYNOLDS

EDWARDSVILLE, 30th May, 1833

*Dear Sir*—I sent to you some weeks since a petition for a pardon for a man in the Penitentiary. Please make out the warrant and send it to Maj. Pearce, the Warden.

Your friend

JOHN REYNOLDS

COL. FIELD

LOWER ALTON, April 25th, 1833

*Sir*—I was the other day shewn a petition signed by a number of respectable citizens of this place directed to you and requesting you to pardon C. Bonae the only convict in the penitentiary which if you grant will save the State a considerable expense, he is so diseased that he is unable to work or to do anything that will go to reduce the expense of feeding and clothing him besides he is under the hands of a Doctor who must be also paid. Immediately after receiving your last communication I wrote to the clerk of the Circuit Court of Gallatin County where he says he was convicted requesting a copy of the record but have not received an answer. he says his time will expire on the sixth Sept. next, but as there is no record whatever in the office concerning his conviction, I know nothing more than what he tells me. I found him here and have taken care of him, and I believe if you should pardon him it would be a benefit to the State and no disadvantage to community to turn him loose and let him go.

Your most obt. Servt.

S. C. PIERCE

TO GOVERNOR REYNOLDS

STATE OF MARYLAND, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ANNAPOLIS, 1833

*Sir*—In compliance with the request of the General Assembly of this State; I transmit to you the foregoing copy of Resolutions passed at the recent Session,

and have the honor to be, with the highest respect your obt. Servant.

JAMES THOMAS

His Excellency Governor of the State of Illinois

CITY OF JEFFERSON

June 4th, 1833

Sir—On Yesterday the Governor of this State received at the hands of Mr. John Hait a demand and other papers from the Executive of the State of Illinois for the apprehension arrest and surrender of Fleming House, a fugitive from Justice of the laws of your State.

One of the papers appears to be defective—the one intended to supply the place of the *affidavit* required by the Act of Congress of Feby. 12th, 1793. I enclose you a copy of this paper. The Governor deems it exceptionable in two or three particulars.

It is objectionable because it is a *Warrant* for the apprehension of House instead of an *affidavit* sworn to and subscribed in the usual manner: But this objection the Governor will be willing to waive as the Warrant contains substantially an affidavit.

It is a *copy* instead of an *original*. This is another objection. The *copy* of an *Indictment* would clearly be sufficient, but the act referred to seems to require the *Original affidavit* to be produced. But this objection I believe the Governor will be able to waive also. The next objection is more important. It is to the certificate. The Secretary of State certifies, that “the foregoing (meaning the copy of the Warrant for the apprehension of House) is a true and perfect copy of the warrant from the original now on file in the office of Secretary of State.” If the act of Congress which is our guide in this case authorized the Secretary of State to make this certificate, the *Certificate* would still be insufficient to make the copy of the Warrant evidence in this State of the facts which it contains. The certificate States that the copy is a true and perfect copy of the original, so it may be, and yet the original may be neither true nor perfect. The certificate does not State that Robert W. Irvin who issued the warrant was a justice of the peace commissioned and qualified and entitled to faith and credit. It is only necessary to point out this omission to enable you at once to perceive the necessity of certifying this fact.

The remaining objection is alluded to above. The certificate is made out by the *Secretary of State*. The act referred to requires the affidavit to be certified as authentic by the *Governor*

or *chief Magistrate* of a State. This and the preceding objection seem to be such as cannot be waived. You will please make the corrections on the receipt of this and return the paper.

On the receipt of the affidavit or warrant or copy of a Warrant properly authenticated, the Governor will issue his Warrant for the apprehension of House and direct it to the Sheriff of Pike County in this State. At the same time Mr. John Hait, the Agent appointed by the Governor of the State of Illinois to receive House will be notified, that a Warrant has been issued for his apprehension. The Sheriff of Pike County will be instructed to delay the apprehension of House until Hait arrives and is ready to receive him. This will save trouble and prevent the accumulation of costs.

I have the honor to be Very respectfully Yr obt. Servt.

JOHN C. EDWARDS  
Secretary of State  
State of Mo.

A. P. FIELD Esq. Secy of State, State of Illinois

EDWARDSVILLE, June 10, 1833

*Sir*—I have a regular file of Illinois Newspapers for many years past. I was induced by a particular consideration to preserve two News papers for a period which enables me to present one to the State of Illinois without breaking my file. I have had them bound in a volume which I herewith send by the Stage coach addressed to you, and have to ask that you will deposite it in the library of the Secretary for the use and benefit of the State of Illinois.<sup>1</sup>

I am with all due respect

EDWARD COLE

To the Secretary of State of Illinois

CHARLESTON, 17th June, 1833

*Dear Sir*—Enclosed is the copy of a judgment in favor of the people of the State of Illinois against William L. Ashmore referred

1. These newspapers are in the Ill. State Hist. Library.

to in your note of the 25th May last, to me, the endorsement of falsity on the envelope was written by Doct. A. Ferguson assistant P. M. at this place. he was also one of the petitioners and a poor good for nothing scoundrel; he acknowledged to Doct. Carrico, S. W. Dunbar & myself that he was guilty of a low life and ungentlemanly trick.

You ask my opinion concerning the affair. There is not one fact set forth in the petition which is not substantially true, & by going through the County I have no hesitation in saying 4-5 of the voters would sign it. I have not seen a man, since I recd. your communication, that expressed an opinion, but what has offered to sign it if necessary.

J. P. JONES

His Excellency JOHN REYNOLDS, Gov. of Illinois

We do hereby certify that the facts set forth in the foregoing letter of Maj. James P. Jones are correct & true this 17th day of June 1833.

JOHN CARRICO,  
ALEXANDER P. DUNBAR

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
VANDALIA, July, 1833

*Sir*—In compliance with an act of the Legislature, I have the honor herewith to transmit to your Excellency three copies of the revised Laws of the State of Illinois passed at their last Session.

I have the honor to be Sir, Your obt. Servant

JOHN REYNOLDS

CIRCULAR

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, 15th July, 1833

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—The Department being frequently called upon to verify the signatures of the Governors of the several States of the Union, under the Great Seal of the same and possessing no official knowledge or record of the names of the Governors, themselves, nor of



the armorial bearings and devices of the seals in question, I have the honor to suggest, for your Excellency's consideration the propriety and convenience of your giving a general direction to the proper officer of your State to acquaint the Department, officially, with the name of its present Governor, and with the date of his appointment, and that he, officially, furnish the Department at the same time, with the device of the Great Seal of the same State. If this regulation could be made to apply also to changes in the executive of your State or alterations in its *Seal* hereafter occurring, it would still further conduce to the convenience of the Department.

I am with great respect, Your Excellency's obt. humble  
Servt

LOUIS McLANE

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, July 23d, 1833

A. P. FIELD Secretary of the State of Illinois, Vandalia.

*Sir*—Your letter of the 6th inst. has been received acknowledging the receipt of 42 copies of the Acts of the 2d session of the 22d Congress, and requesting to be furnished with the Decisions of the Supreme Court. By reference to the law respecting the distribution of these decisions, you will find, that it does not provide for the transmission of them from this Department to the State Governments, otherwise, it would give me pleasure to comply with your request.

I am sir respectfully Your obedt. Servant

LOUIS McLANE

STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
CONCORD, August 3, 1833

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—I herewith transmit a copy of a resolve of the Legislature of this State relative to an organization of the Militia of the several States in the Union.

With considerations of high respect, Your obedient Servant,  
SAMUEL DINSMOOR

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court convened. That the organization of the Militia of the United States, being a matter entrusted by the Constitution to the General Government, requires its attention and can be only efficiently and satisfactorily done by that Government.

Resolved, That our Senators in Congress, be and are hereby instructed, and our representatives requested, to use their exertions to procure the passage of a law providing for a more perfect and uniform organization of the Militia of the several States of the Union.

Resolved, that His Excellency the Governor of this State, be directed to transmit to each of our Senators and to our Representatives in Congress, a copy of the foregoing resolutions and also a copy to the Governors of the other States in the Union, with a view that the same may be submitted to their different Legislatures.

Approved, July 5, 1833. A true copy.

RALPH METCAFF,  
Secretary of State

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE

DOVER, Sept. 1st, 1833

*Sir*—In obedience to the directions of an Act of the General Assembly of the State of Delaware, I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, herewith, three copies of the laws of the said State, passed at the last January Session.

With the highest consideration I have the honor to be Your Excellency's Most obt. Servt.

JAMES RODGERS  
Secretary of State

His Excellency The Governor of Illinois

STATE OF ILLINOIS, EXECUTIVE DEPT.

Sepr. 23d, 1833

I hereby appoint Scipio Beaird a messenger to demand of the Governor of Missouri certain criminals, now confined in the jail

of St. Louis County, and to deliver them over to the Sheriff of Monroe County, Illinois.

The Secty. of State will make out a warrant under the seal of state according to the above appointment. This case to pursue similar cases in form and substance as heretofore observed in the Secty's Office.

JOHN REYNOLDS,  
Gov.

GALENA, October 16

*Dear Gov*—I have hardly time to ask that you would consider this as my resignation of the office of Recorder; and to request that you would commission Chas. R. Bennet my successor. Your immediate compliance with this will confer a favor on your friend. From every intelligence there can be no doubt of your success; may good fortune speed you. Mills and Turney have both declined leaving the track to May uncontested.

Your obt. servt.

J. W. STEPHENSON<sup>1</sup>

His Excellency, JOHN REYNOLDS, Belleville, Illinois

I appoint Charles R. Bennett Recorder of Jo Davies County, Ill.

JOHN REYNOLDS  
Gov.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES, February 26, 1833

“Resolved, That the Secretary of State be directed to lay before the Senate, as soon as his duties will permit, a statement shewing the increase per centum of the white population in each State and Territory of the United States at the several decimal periods from the year 1790 to 1830, inclusive; also the per centum of increase of slaves and free persons of color, shewing the relative proportion which such increase may bear to the white population; also, the

1. James W. Stephenson: appointed, December 1, 1830, by Governor Reynolds, recorder of Jo Daviess County; 1831-33, served as captain in Black Hawk War; 1834-36, state senator from Jo Daviess County; 1837, Democratic nominee for governor, but resigned. —Reynolds, John, *Pioneer History of Illinois*, Chicago, 1887.

increase per centum of aliens within the same period, and the proportion that increase may bear to native and naturalized citizens; also, the increase per centum of the militia force of the United States, together with such other statistical information bearing on the same as the Secretary may deem useful and expedient. Attest,

WALTER LOWRIE,  
Secretary."

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, November 30th, 1833

TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—By the above resolution your Excellency will perceive that a call has been made on this Department to furnish certain information relating to the Militia force of the several States and Territories, and as the information required cannot be fully obtained from the office of the Adjutant General of the United States, I have to request that you will be pleased to instruct the Adjutant General of your State to furnish, with the least possible delay, the numerical strength of the militia at the periods therein specified.

As I am particularly anxious to comply with the call of the Senate at as early a date as possible, I shall feel myself obliged if your Excellency will give the subject your immediate attention.

I have the honor to be, your obedient servant,

(Signed) LOUIS McLANE

STATE OF NEW YORK, EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
ALBANY, Dec. 1, 1833

*Sir*—In pursuant to a joint resolution of the Senate and Assembly of this State, I have the honor to transmit to you the accompanying Report and Resolutions, with a request that they may be laid before the Legislature of Your State.

I am very respectfully Sir, Your obt Servt.

W. L. MARCY

## GENERAL LAND OFFICE

December 6, 1833

*Sir*—The Amount of the three per cent fund payable to the State of Illinois for the second half of 1831 and first half of 1832 as adjusted at this office is Nine Thousand Eight Hundred and thirty eight dollars and seventy four cents (\$9,838.74). The accounts have been transmitted to the First Comptroller of the Treasury for his decision thereon.

I have the honor to be Sir very respectfully Your obt. Servt.

ELIJAH HAYWARD

JOHN REYNOLDS Esq Governor of Illinois, Vandalia, Ill.

*Sir*—I respectfully beg leave to submit to you, and to the Legislature of the State over which you preside, a plan for a substitute for the notes of the Bank of the United States and eventually as a substitute for all Bank notes: and an effectual guard against the greatest evils arising from Banks.

The proposition is contained in the Sixth number of the dollar Magazine, which is forwarded to you by this days mail.

I have sought for and weighed the objections to the proposed currency but have discovered none other than such as arise from the possibility of an excessive issue. This danger I think amply guarded against; for it is proposed that it be issued by the *General Government* for the exclusive benefit of the *State Governments*. The former has therefore no interest to induce it to issue too much. On the other hand its interest is so greatly concerned in *preventing* an issue which would cause the paper to fall below par, that it would become the most watchful and efficient check upon any such imprudence: For if the paper maintain itself at par, such part of it as may be paid to the United States for the duties &c can be used by the Treasury in common with its other funds for paying Expenses of the General Government: but if it fall below par it cannot be so used & other funds must be provided, while the States are engaged in extensive undertakings for opening trade, and while the subject of a general education of the people attracts more and more of the public attention. A proposal to supply funds to the State Government is especially opportune.

If any profit arise from supplying the currency it belongs of right to the people at large and not to corporations.

I am Sir with great respect Your obt. Servt.

E. LITTLE

PHILADA. 4, Dec., 1833

HON. JOHN REYNOLDS

OFFICE OF SECRETARY OF STATE

VANDALIA, Dec. 16, 1833

COL. E. C. BERRY

I am instructed by the Governor to inform you that he has been called on by the Secretary of State of the United States to cause to be furnished to that Department the increase per centum of the Militia of this State at the several periods from the Year 1790 to 1830 inclusive. You will please cause a correct report on the above subject to be made as early as possible as far back as the information in Your office will enable you, and transmit the same to this Department.

I am with high respect Yr. obt. Servt.

A. P. FIELD

Sec of State

Memorial to the House of Representatives of the U. States, for the construction of a ship canal around the falls of Niagara.

TO THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE UNITED STATES,  
IN CONGRESS ASSEMBLED:

Your memorialists, citizens of the State of New York, inhabiting the Northern boundary of the United States in the vicinity of Lake Ontario, would respectfully submit to your Honorable House the propriety of an inquiry into the expediency of effecting a navigable communication between Lakes Erie and Ontario, by means of which the obstructions now interposed by the Falls of Niagara may be avoided, and an uninterrupted navigation effected between the Lakes.

Your memorialists would not invite the attention of your Honorable House to the subject had they not the clearest as-

surance of the perfect practicability of the measure, and at a very moderate expense—at an expense which they believe the Country would regard of no consideration when contrasted with the vast results which would ensue to the trade and agriculture of the West, the commerce of the East, and to our means of national defence.

Your memorialists respectfully represent, that the Northern frontier of the Union, which during the last war with Great Britain presented almost a naked forest to the enemy, has now become the scene of an active, enterprising and industrious population that perhaps no where in our country, removed from the Atlantic coast, are there to be seen more striking examples of agricultural improvement, of the successful cultivation of manufactures and the mechanic arts, of a laborious, enterprising and prosperous commerce. From the banks of the St. Lawrence to the Detroit, at no remote distances from each other, are to be found villages often containing several thousands of inhabitants, the busy scenes of human industry, and the not infrequent abodes of cultivation and refinement. The commerce of the Lakes has now become so far extended as to constitute a very essential part of the industry of the nation.

Your memorialists respectfully represent, that the State of New York, a part of the State of Pennsylvania, the States of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois and the Michigan Territory have all an obvious and direct interest in providing every possible means which may add facility, economy, expedition or security to the navigation of the Lakes. That the western part of the State of Virginia, and the States of Kentucky and Missouri are also deeply interested in the successful prosecution of these objects; and that even the State of Tennessee, apparently remote in position from the Lakes, is, in the opinion of your memorialists, by no means separated in interest from any thing which may contribute to their navigable facilities.

Your memorialists respectfully represent, that experience upon the Hudson, the Lakes, and the great rivers of the West, has satisfactorily ascertained the superiority in the great point of economy of natural communications over the constructions of art. Many of the productions of agriculture which from bulk

and weight can bear transportation but comparatively short distances on canals and railroads, may be advantageously conveyed to market from the remotest points to which our natural navigable facilities extend. To the immense advantage which rivers and lakes possess over canals in the cheapness of transportation may be mentioned the great additional considerations of expedition and certainty. Your memorialists represent that the Northern Lakes, which may be regarded as inland seas, and therefore to be measured by their extent of coast, were it not for the interruption of the Falls of Niagara, would embrace the most extensive scene of inland navigation to be found on the globe, excepting only that comprehended within the limits of the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

They submit, therefore, that as the greater part of these immense waters belong to the Government of the United States and not to that of any particular state; that as they are the channels by which a great commercial intercourse exists between the States and which may be almost infinitely extended; that as they are the scenes of an already important foreign trade which gives every promise of great future expansion, and that as they provide the natural and most expeditious facilities for the prosecution of a very large part of our trading intercourse with the Indians of the North-west, they fall within the peculiar jurisdiction and have a claim to the fostering legislation of the Federal Government.

If it were only in consideration of the great benefits resulting to the foreign and domestic commerce of the United States, your memorialists believe this consideration would be an adequate inducement for the General Government to adopt measures for the construction of the works necessary to the creation of an uninterrupted navigation between the Lakes. But your memorialists respectfully represent that mere considerations of commercial advantage, no matter how intimately connected with the interests of a very large part of the Union, are not the principal inducements which have urged them to solicit the attention of Congress to the subject of this memorial. Your memorialists believe that the time is rapidly approaching, if it has not already arrived, when the existence of a free navigable communication



between Lakes Erie and Ontario will become of the most essential importance, perhaps indispensable to the national defence.

Your memorialists need scarcely remark, that the most important, the most extensive and the most assailable frontier of the Union, is that which is bounded by the Lakes, the intervening rivers and the St. Lawrence. The importance of establishing the most expeditious and the most convenient means of communication from one extremity of the frontier to the other is, in a military aspect, too obvious to be remarked on. A cursory observation of the topography of our country in relation to the Lakes, the New York canals and rail-roads, the Ohio canal, and the rivers, canals and rail-roads of Pennsylvania, will make it instantly evident that if a navigable channel of communication existed between Lakes Erie and Ontario, there would exist means of transportation from the heart of the Union to the Northern frontier, and from one extremity of the frontier to the other, which in the various properties of expedition, safety and convenience would be probably without parallel in any other country.

What results might be expected from the construction of the proposed navigation, may be estimated from the simple fact, upon the completion of the railroad from Albany to Utica in the State of New York, the distance between the City of New York and Detroit, in the Michigan Territory, may, with the utmost convenience, be accomplished by the route of Oswego and Lake Ontario in from eighty to eighty-four hours.

Your memorialists respectfully represent, that if again our country should be visited by the calamities of war, the inhabitants alone on the Northern frontiers are likely to be brought into immediate contact with its evils. They would respectfully ask the attention of your honorable House to the extraordinary augmentation of the power, population, wealth and resources of the British North American Possessions during the past few years.

These Provinces until lately considered rather as a burden than a support to the British power, and now justly regarded as one of the strongest arms of the British Empire. The climate, soil, and resources of the province of Upper Canada until the last few years have been known or misunderstood. It is now well

ascertained that the vast bodies of water, by which this extensive territory is almost surrounded, have given to its climate a more moderate and more equable temperature than exists in the parallel or more Southern latitudes of the Northern parts of New York, Pennsylvania and Ohio. That in soil it is at least equal and by many thought to surpass the rich productive lands of the western portion of the State of New York, and that during the last five years it has grown in the resources of population and wealth, in agricultural improvements, commercial enterprise and industry beyond what is known to your memorialists to have been accomplished in the same space of time in the most flourishing parts of our own favored country. The emigration from the British Isles into the Canadas now averages from 50 to 60,000 souls per annum; your memorialists would respectfully remark, not composed as formerly of adventurous fugitives from Ireland fleeing from oppression and want, but mainly of the substantial yeomanry and artisans of England and Scotland, who constitute not merely an addition to the population, but bear with them the ability of largely contributing to the wealth and power of the Provinces. Since the last war with Great Britain, flourishing commercial towns, some of them approaching the character of cities, have sprung up on the Canadian shores of the rivers and lakes. A continued stream of agricultural population has flown backward from York to the banks of Simcoe, which is now navigated by steam. From the shores of the Lake Simcoe, your memorialists are informed, the settlements are rapidly extending themselves to Lake Huron. Lake Ontario has become the scene of employment for a large amount of British commercial capital. More than thirty British steam boats are in constant and profitable operation while your memorialists regret to observe there are but three which belong to the American ports on the St. Lawrence and the Lake.

The private enterprise of the provincialists has created the Welland Canal by which a navigable channel exists for vessels having a water draft of eight feet between Lake Erie and Ontario, through the Upper Canada Peninsula. Magnificent schemes of improvement are in agitation, and which will doubtless be realized, by which a navigation for vessels of heavy tonnage will be

effected from Lake Erie to the Ocean. Seventy thousand pounds were appropriated by the Provincial Parliament of Upper Canada at it's last session, towards the commencement of works for the construction of a navigable channel around the rapids of the St. Lawrence. Surveys for the construction of a canal of a capacity to admit vessels navigating the Atlantic have been made during the last season under the direction of the late Chief Engineer of the New York canals, to whom it is understood the direction of the contemplated works is intrusted. Negotiations are believed to be pending between the Government of Upper Canada and the Welland Canal Company, for the purchase by the former of the Welland Canal with the intent of enlarging it's capacity to a proportionate dimension with the contemplated canal at the rapids of the St. Lawrence. When these works are completed, Great Britain will be in the possession of a steam boat navigation from the Ocean to Lake Erie, through which even ships of war of considerable force can be conveyed.

They must necessarily in case of future war have the command of the Lakes and of the northern frontier of the Union, unless counteracted by a corresponding energy on the part of our Government. The Welland Canal has been constructed across the Upper Canada Peninsula a distance of forty one miles. On the American shore the vessels now navigating Lakes Erie and Ontario, approach each other within a distance of only eight miles, and no doubt exists that a canal of only eight miles length, of competent dimensions, could with perfect facility pass the whole tonnage of either Lake to the other. Should such a canal be constructed, it is presumed in case of war one fleet would provide for the service of both Lakes; and your memorialists respectfully submit to the consideration of your Honorable House the fact, that a most inconsiderable part of the cost of one fleet would construct the canal. Your memorialists respectfully suggest that in case of another war with Great Britain, the Government of the United States would feel itself called upon to construct such a canal and to defend it's construction at almost any cost, and subject to all the embarrassments and difficulties incident to a state of war.

Your memorialists would be indulged in remarking, that the representations they have felt themselves called upon to make in relation to the Canadas, and especially in relation to the Province of Upper Canada, are instigated by no feelings of hostility or of jealous apprehension. They rejoice in the prosperity and the rapid developement of the resources of a country which nature has greatly favored, and whose inhabitants are establishing and sustaining institutions closely resembling our own. It is their earnest desire to continue to cultivate every commercial, social and friendly relation with a people to whom they are allied by all the associations of a kindred origin and language, and of similar institutions and manners.

But whether the pacific relations now so happily existing between Great Britain and the United States shall hereafter be interrupted will but in small measure depend on them or on their Canadian neighbors. And your memorialists cannot conceal from themselves, if it is the destiny of the two countries again to encounter in arms, that it is upon their own Lakes and upon their shores, and perhaps in sight of their own dwellings, that the battle is to be fought the hardest.

Your memorialists therefore cannot refrain from reminding your Honorable House, what experience and the precepts of of political wisdom have so often taught, that the safest conservative of peace is preparation for war, and that in preparation for war, not less than in the spirit of chivalry, is to be found the cheap defence of nations.

The above considerations are most respectfully submitted for such order as your Honorable House in its wisdom may deem just, and your memorialists will ever pray.

At a very crowded meeting of the citizens of the County of Oswego, held at the Court House in Oswego Dec. 12, 1833, to take into consideration the propriety of memorializing Congress in relation to a Steamboat Canal around the Falls of Niagara, Rudolph Bunner, Esq. of Oswego, was appointed President, Orville Robinson, Esq. of Mexico, Vice President, and M. W. Matthews, Esq. of Richland, and James Abrams Jr. Esq. of Fulton, Secretaries.

The object of the meetings having been explained by the President, on motion George H. McWhorter, Moses P. Hatch, George Fisher, Christian J. Burckle, U. G. White, A. J. Gates, and J. N. Bonesteel, were appointed a committee to draft a Memorial to Congress, and to prepare resolutions for the consideration of the meetings.

On motion, also, Christian J. Burckle, G. H. McWhorter, A. P. Grant, J. N. Bonesteel, Wm. F. Allen and M. P. Hatch, were appointed a General Corresponding Committee.

Likewise, on motion, David P. Brewster, Orris Hart, Jonathan Case, Hiram Hubbell and U. G. White, were appointed a committee to circulate the memorial for signatures, and to raise funds to meet the expenses of circulating, printing &c.

Mr. McWhorter, from the first mentioned committee, reported a memorial addressed to the House of Representatives, and the resolutions herewith published, which were unanimously adopted. The meeting was then addressed with great ability by the President, and by Messrs. Burckle and Fisher. A resolution for publishing the proceedings was adopted, and the meeting adjourned.

The following are the resolutions adopted at the meeting:

Resolved, That in the opinion of this meeting, the construction of national works in aid of the natural facilities for communication between the States, for the advancement and security of our commercial intercourse with foreign powers, and for the securement of the national defence, is the most effective means of encouraging the industry of the nation and of strengthening the bonds of our national union: That for such purposes, therefore, liberal appropriations from the public treasury, of the funds not required for the necessary expenses of Government and for the payment of the public debt, are demanded on principles of justice, of expediency, and by the dictates of sound policy.

Resolved, That among the great objects of internal improvement indisputably of a national character this meeting regards the construction of a navigable communication between Lakes Erie and Ontario as the most prominent, the most simple, to be obstructed by fewer difficulties, to be accomplished at the least

expense and most likely to contribute to the common defence and the general welfare of the Union.

Resolved, That the agricultural interests of the West, the commercial and manufacturing interests of the Eastern and Middle States, and even the cotton and tobacco planting interests of the Southwest are deeply interested in affording every possible facility and security to the navigation of the Northern Lakes.

Resolved, that the construction of a navigable communication of a capacity to admit Steamboats and other vessels navigating Lakes Erie and Ontario would greatly aid our commerce with the Colonial Possessions of a foreign power, the commerce between the States and with the Indian tribes.

Resolved, that the military defence of the extensive frontier lying upon the St. Lawrence, the Lakes and the communicating rivers, is worthy of the highest consideration of the national Government, and that in the opinion of this meeting no measures would more largely contribute to that defence than a free navigation from the St. Lawrence to the headwaters of the Michigan.

Resolved, therefore, That the construction of a ship or steamboat canal around the Falls of Niagara by which an uninterrupted navigable communication may be effected between Lake Ontario and the upper Lakes, is an object worthy of the immediate attention of the General Government and claiming a liberal appropriation of the surplus revenues of the nation: That a memorial more fully expressive of the wishes and purposes of this meeting be prepared and circulated through this section of the State of New York for signatures: That it be transmitted to the Representatives in Congress from this Congressional District, and that they be requested to present the same to the House of Representatives and to make use of every honorable effort to carry into effect the objects of the Memorial.

Resolved, That copies of these resolutions and of the memorial be circulated in our own State and in the States of Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, and the Michigan Territory, and that the earnest co-operation of the citizens of those States and of the said Michigan Territory be respectfully invited in support of the objects of this meeting.

OSWEGO, STATE OF NEW YORK, December 16, 1833

*Sir*—The undersigned, a corresponding committee appointed at a very large meeting of the citizens of the county of Oswego convened to take into consideration what measures might be deemed expedient in relation to the construction of a ship or steam boat Canal around the Falls of Niagara, beg leave to offer the preceding memorial, resolutions and account of the proceedings of the meetings for your perusal. They also beg leave respectfully, to invite the zealous co-operation of yourself and the citizens of your vicinity in aid of the great national work in contemplation.

With the utmost respect they would suggest the expediency of public meetings of the citizens, of resolutions in support of those adopted by the citizens of this County and of memorials to Congress in behalf of the same objects represented by the Oswego Memorial.

Very respectfully, Sir, we are your obt. servts

C. J. BURCKLE,  
G. H. MC. WHORTER  
A. P. GRANT,  
J. N. BONESTEEL,  
W. F. ALLEN,  
M. P. HATCH,  
A. J. GATES.

His Exl. JOHN REYNOLDS Esq. Vandalia, Illinois

PHILADA., Dec. 27, 1833

*Sir*—In obedience to the instructions of Mr. John McRea of Fayetteville N. C. I have forwarded to you per the care of Messrs. Riddle, Forsythe & Co. Pittsburgh, Pa. a Map of the State of North Carolina.

Very respectfully Yours

A. S. TANNER  
pr. T. I. ROBERTS

Governor of Illinois Vandalia, Ill.

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT, GEORGIA  
MILLEDGVILLE, 1<sup>st</sup> Jany, 1834

*Sir*—In compliance with the request contained in a resolution there to appended, I have the honor to transmit to you a copy of a Report Embracing the views of the public authorities of Georgia in relation to proposals for disposing of the public lands belonging to the United States.

Very respectfully Your obedient Servant

WILSON LUMPKIN

His Excellency Governor of Illinois

#### IN SENATE.

The Committee on the State of the Republic to whom was referred so much of the Governor's Message as relates to the resolutions of the State of Tennessee, and the report and resolutions thereon by the Legislature of the State of Massachusetts, on the subject of the Public lands of the United States have attended to the duty assigned them and beg leave to make the following report:

That without specifically enquiring into the means by which the United States Government became possessed of the Public Lands, or the causes which, after the War of the Revolution, induced several of the States to transfer to that Government, all or a great portion of their unoccupied Lands under certain limitations and restrictions specified in the several deeds of cession or relinquishment. Your committee deem it sufficient to state that those deeds and relinquishments and all other purchases of lands by the United States Government were made for the common benefit of the several States that it is a common fund to be distributed without partiality, and to ensue to the equal benefit of all the States. Your committee cannot perceive that an immediate sale of all the public Lands as proposed by the resolutions of the State of Tennessee would be expedient or beneficial, and how ever laudable the object the Legislature of the State of Tennessee had in view in the proposed disposition of the proceeds thereof, as a permanent fund for the purposes of education, Yet your committee are of opinion, that the disposition



of the lands would interfere with the true policy of the Government with regard to its Western Territory: To wit The speedy occupation of that Territory by actual settlers, and further that such an immense body of lands at once thrown into the market, at reduced prices as is contemplated, by those resolutions, would place it in the power of a combination of wealthy individuals to purchase up those lands, for the purpose of speculating upon their fellow citizens, who might wish to become, and who under the present system, can become, however poor they may be, the actual settlers of the country.

Your Committee cannot perceive that the Land Bill, introduced into the Senate of the United States by Mr. Clay, and passed by that body, provides for the distribution of the public Lands in that equitable manner contemplated by the States in their several deeds of cession.

The Government of the United States have already acted upon a liberal policy towards the New States in admitting them into the Union upon an Equality with the old States as speedily as their numerical population would warrant their admission: there can therefore be no good reason why those new States should be entitled to any advantages in the distribution of the proceeds of the Public Lands, over the Original States by whom these lands were purchased or ceded.

However acceptable to the people of Georgia the receipt of her dividend from the proposed sales might be, Yet your Committee regret that they perceive in this proposed distribution of a large portion of the revenues of the General Government, among the several States only another method about to be adopted to reduce still those revenues, and thereby create a necessity and furnish an excuse to the Majority in Congress for entailing still longer upon the people of the South, the unjust and odious Tariff System. Your Committee therefore respectfully recommend the adoption of the following resolutions:

*Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives of the State of Georgia in General Assembly met:*

That the General Assembly disapprove of the Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Tennessee, of the 21<sup>st</sup> De-

ember, 1831, in relation to the sale and disposition of the public Lands of the United States.

*Resolved*, That the General Assembly admit the correctness of the views taken on the subject in the four first Resolutions of the General Assembly of the State of Massachusetts, of the 28th March, 1833, but cannot admit the policy or expediency of a distribution of any part of the revenues of the General Government among the several States so long as any part of those revenues are raised upon the principal of a protective Tariff of duties on Foreign imports.

*Resolved*, That our Senators in Congress be instructed and our Representatives requested to oppose the passage of any law having for its object the distribution of the proceeds of the sales of the public Lands of the United States among the several States; and that His Excellency the Governor be requested to transmit a copy of this report to the President of the United States, the Governors of each of the States and to each of our Senators and Representatives in Congress.

In Senate 20th December, 1833 agreed to.

JACOB WOOD  
President of the Senate.

Attest, JOHN A. CATHBERT, Secretary  
In the House of Representatives  
20th December 1833

Concurred in

Attest, JOSEPH STURGES, Clerk

Approved, Dec. 20th, 1833.

THOMAS GLASCOCK.  
Speaker of the House  
of Representatives.

WILSON LUMPKIN,  
Governor.

CHARLESTON, COLES COUNTY, ILLINOIS, Feby 3d, 1834  
TO HIS EXCELLENCY, JOHN REYNOLDS Governor of the State  
of Illinois:

I take this mail to let you know that Ambrose Yocom Sheriff of this County died on the 27th day of January last, and there is considerable business to do between this and our next

May Circuit Court, it would be well to have an Election to fill his vacancy as soon as possible.

Yours with respect

N. ELLINGTON

Clerk Co. Comrs. Court, Coles County

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT

INDIANAPOLIS, IND., 18 Feby, 1834

HIS EXCY. GOV. REYNOLDS

*Sir*—In discharge of a duty enjoined by the Legislature of this State, I now transmit you an official copy of an act passed at our recent Session, among the provisions of which, you will find one applying twelve thousand dollars to the improvement of that part of the Wabash, over which, we have concurrent jurisdiction, which sum is to meet an equal appropriation heretofore made on the part of Illinois.

As these monies are to be expended under the joint superintendence of the agents to be appointed on the part of our respective States the requisitions made upon me will soon be complied with as regards the appt. of Comr. &c. that an early commencement may be made and I shall be gratified to receive a communication from you announcing the appt. of a Comr. on your part and naming the time and place of meeting, with any suggestion you have to make on the subject.

With great esteem I am Your obt. svt.

N. NOBLE

ADJUTANT GENERALS OFFICE

BOSTON, Feby. 27th

TO THE GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—I have the honor to request your acceptance of a report upon the Militia to the Government of this State. In which I have indulged myself in remarks which may be thought applicable to the Militia of the whole Union.

An United effort of the authorities of all the States seems to be necessary to produce that speedy action on the part of Congress which is required to restore the Militia to a Constitutional

foundation, upon which alone it can be expected to receive the public favour. The plan of reform proposed has a general reference & is respectfully submitted with a distrustful hope it may meet with General acceptance.

I have the honor to be with the highest respect Your most obt. servant

W. H. SUMNER

BELLEVILLE, 12th March, 1834

TO SAMUEL MUNDY ESQR. Commissioner

*Sir*—I have been honored with a communication from the the Governor of Indiana announcing the fact that an “act of Legislature of that State had passed an act before the 4th. March 1834 appropriating the sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars to be used in conjunction with the like sum of Twelve Thousand Dollars appropriated by this State to improve the navigation of the Great Wabash River.” Having been furnished with a certified copy of the act of the General Assembly of the State of Indiana it becomes my duty under the act of the Legislature of this State passed 12th February 1833 to direct the Auditor to issue his Warrant in your favour for the amount above mentioned on your performing certain conditions. You will therefore proceed with all convenient speed to qualify yourself to receive said warrant and when you are ready to receive it you will please inform me. I have apprized the Governor of your appointment and assured him, that the people of this State are highly interested in the improvement and would join in the work with heart and hand.

I have the honor to be Your obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS  
Governor of Illinois

BELLEVILLE, ILL., 13th March, 1834

TO HIS EXCELLY. N. NOBLE Gov. of Indiana

*Sir*—I had the honor to receive your communication together with a certified copy of an act of the Legislature of Indiana

relative to the improvement of the Great Wabash River. And I can assure you that the people of this State will cooperate with the State of Indiana in the work of improvement with great cordiality. The improvement of the navigation of this river is very interesting to the people of this State and more Particularly to those residing on the Eastern part. They are much pleased with the course adopted by the State over which you preside and will join in the work with that good feeling which becomes each State to observe toward the other.

Samuel Munday Esq. is appointed Commissioner by the General Assembly of this State: and a gentleman of good character and standing: and resides in the county of Wabash near the contemplated improvement of that River.

The Commissioner on the part of this State has been informed of the appropriation made by Indiana, and a warrant will be issued on the Treasury of this State in his favour so soon as he is qualified in office.

Having furnished the above information the Commissioner on the part of Indiana may be enabled to correspond with Mr. Munday on the part of this State so that the preparation for this desirable work may commence immediately.

With great respect I am Your most obedient Servant

JOHN REYNOLDS  
Gov. of Illinois

BELLEVILLE, 15 March, 1834

*Dear Sir*—Enclosed you an order for a Warrant of remission. Please forward the proper vouchers.

I want you to send the names of the Militia officers in the Territory in 1812 to me. You will find them in an old book.

Your friend

JOHN REYNOLDS

COL. FIELD

EXECUTIVE DEPARTMENT  
DETROIT, March 15th, 1834

HIS EXCELLENCY JOHN REYNOLDS Governor of the State of  
Illinois

*Sir*—Conformably to the request contained in the resolution of our Legislative council I have the honor to enclose the report of their Committee with the documents therein referred to, on the subject of the Southern Boundary of the Territory of Michigan.

With great regard I have the honor to be Sir.

Your very obt. Svt.

G. B. PORTER

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, 3d May, 1834

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—The enclosed paper has been sent to this office by the French Minister for the purpose of having it properly authenticated for use in France. To this end the certificate of the Governor authenticating the proceedings of the Probate Judge under the seal of the State will be necessary. I have the honor to request therefore, that your Excellency will cause the accompanying instrument to be authenticated in the manner above designated and that it may then be returned to this department without unnecessary delay.

I am with great respect Your obedient servant

LOUIS McLANE

COUNCIL CHAMBER  
ANNAPOLIS, June, 1834

*Sir*—In compliance with a resolution of the General Assembly, and by direction of his Excellency, Governor Thomas, I have the honor to forward herewith three copies of the laws of this State passed at the last Session: and also the 4th Volume of Gill & Johnson's Reports of decisions in our Court of Appeals.

In the course of last Summer, I forwarded by mail, to the address of the Governor of each State and Territory in the

Union, 16 volumes of Reports (being a complete set of all published at that time) of the decisions in our Superior Courts. As we know that one set, at least did not reach its destination, in consequence of the interference of an agent of the Post Office Department, I will thank you to inform us, whether or not, the one intended for your State has been received.

With great respect I remain Your Excellency's obt. Servt

THOS. CULBRETH

Clerk of the Executive Council

His Excellency The Governor of Illinois

EDWARDSVILLE, June 12th, 1834

*Sir*—I herewith enclose my resignation of the Office of Attorney General of the State of Illinois, which is to take effect on the 1st day of September next. I have postponed the time of its taking effect, because as I have attended to the duties of the office during the present Spring Circuit, and as there will be no specific duty to perform before the 1st of Sept., I think I am equitably entitled to the delay until that time. I also think it but just that it should be publicly known at what time the office will be vacant, to a certainty, in order that those who may wish to apply for the appointment may have a fair opportunity of making their pretensions known to you.

I have the honor, to be yr. obt. Servt.

JAMES SEMPLE<sup>1</sup>

His Excellency, Gov. REYNOLDS, Belleville

1. James Semple: born, January 5, 1787, in Greene County, Kentucky; 1818, emigrated to Edwardsville, Illinois, but returned to Kentucky nine months later; 1819, married Ellen Duff Green; 1820, moved to Chariton, Missouri; 1822, elected colonel of the Twenty-first Regiment of Missouri militia; about 1828, moved to Edwardsville, Illinois; 1831-33, served in Black Hawk War as adjutant and aid to General Samuel Whiteside; 1832-34, represented Madison County in General Assembly; June 5, 1833, married Mrs. Mary S. Mizner (nee Cairns); January 13, 1833-June 12, 1834, attorney-general; 1834-38, served as speaker of the House of Representatives, in which he represented Madison County; 1837-42, *charge d' affairs* to New Grenada, South America; 1837, moved to Alton; January 16, 1843-August 16, 1843, justice of the Supreme Court of Illinois, *vice* Sydney Breese, resigned; 1843-47, United States senator to fill the unexpired term of Samuel McRoberts; December 20, 1866, died at Elsah, Jersey County, and was buried in Bellefontaine Cemetery, St. Louis; laid out towns of Highland, Samarana and Elsah; in politics Semple was a Democrat of the Jeffersonian type.—Cushman, *Mary Semple Ames, Transactions* of Illinois Historical Society, 1905; Snyder, John F., *Adam W. Snyder*, Virginia, 1906.

OFFICE SEC. SENATE

WASHINGTON, July 19th, 1834

*Sir*—By a resolution of the Senate it is made my duty to send certain printed lists of the pensioners of the United States to each court of record in the respective States.

To enable me to carry this resolution into effect, I have to request that you will cause to be furnished to this office, the number of courts of record, with the respective post office in each County of the State over which you preside.

I am respectfully your obt. svt.

WALTER LOWRIE,  
Secretary of the Senate

The Governor of Illinois

GENERAL LAND OFFICE

July 29, 1834

*Sir*—I have the honor to inform you that the amount of the 3 per cent fund payable to the State of Illinois for the 2d half of 1832 and 1<sup>st</sup> half of 1833 as adjusted at this office is eleven thousand seven hundred thirty nine dollars and forty two cents. (\$11,739.42.)

Very respectfully Your obt Servt.

ELIJAH HAYWARD

JOHN REYNOLDS Esqr Governor of Illinois, Vandalia

VANDALIA, 20th Augt. 1834

TO THE SHERIFF ELECT OF FULTON Co.

*Sir*—I have been favored with the return of your election of Sheriff of Fulton County, and your letter accompanied with the order of Court requiring you to pay into the County Treasury the money for the taxes on residents, and on these documents I will remark, that I called on the Auditor to know, if he would consider himself justifiable in giving you a *quietus* on the fact; that you were ordered by the County Court to pay the taxes on residents into the County Treasury; and on the presentation of these documents, he refused and could not state, that the above



money was paid into the State Treasury, when in fact it was not. The question then arises, has the Governor the power under the circumstances to issue a commission? There is under the law no discretion given. There must be a *quietus* presented on the occasion. On examination of the act you will be satisfied; but there is no default in you whatever, and on that consideration, I will not order a new election, but my successor will I presume submit the whole transaction to the General Assembly with a recommendation that a law be passed enabling him to issue to you a commission. It is almost useless for me to state to you, that I consider by law, that the old Sheriff continues in office until his successor be qualified; so that you will act as Sheriff until your successor be qualified into office.

With respect, I am your obt. Servt.

JOHN REYNOLDS  
Gov. of Ill.

HUGH LAMASTER Esq.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE  
WASHINGTON, September 16th, 1834

*Sir*—A Resolution of Congress of September 23d 1789 makes it the duty of the Secretary of State to procure from time to time, such of the Statutes of the several States as may not be in his office. Upon examination, I find that the collection of the Laws of Your State in this department, is incomplete, I have therefore the honor to enclose to Your Excellency, a list of those which are wanting and to request that you will be pleased to give directions for having the deficiency supplied as also for the regular transmission in future of all Statutes passed by your Legislature.

Any expenses which may be occasioned by complying with the above request will be paid by the Department. I venture also to add that any other official documents with which your Excellency may think proper to furnish the Department of State will be received with pleasure and carefully preserved in its collection.

I have the honor to be respectfully

Your Excellency's obdt. Servt.

JOHN FORSYTHE

His Excellency The Governor of Illinois Vandalia

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON, Sept. 20th, 1834

TO THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—Agreeably to the provisions of certain acts and resolutions of Congress there has been forwarded to you, through the Postmaster at Vandalia 4 sets (7 volumes each) of the Documents of the 2nd Session of the 22d Congress. You will confer a favor by acknowledging the receipt of the same when received.

I am, Sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant.

JOHN FORSYTH  
Secretary of State

Memorandum—Sets

1. For the Executive of the State.
2. One for each branch of the Legislature.
  1. For Jackson College.

DEPARTMENT OF STATE

WASHINGTON, October 17th, 1834

*Sir*—I have the honour to inform your Excellency that I have received the volumes, containing the acts of your Legislature, as requested in my letter of the 16th ult.

I have the honor to be, your Excellency's most obt. servt.

ASBURY DICKINS,  
act'g Secretary of State

To his Excellency, the Governor of Illinois, Vandalia

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA

SECRETARY'S OFFICE, HARRISBURG

October 20th, 1834

*Sir*—Agreeably to an act of Assembly of this Commonwealth; I have the honor to transmit to your Excellency, three copies of the Laws passed at the last Session of the Legislature, of this State, one copy for the use of each branch of the Legisla-

ture of the State over which you preside, and one copy for the use of the Executive Department thereof.

I have the honor to be very respectfully,

Your obedient servant

JAMES FINDLAY

Secretary of the Commonwealth

His Excellency The Governor of the State of Illinois

BOSTON, Oct. 23d, 1834

TO HIS EXCELLENCY, THE GOVERNOR OF ILLINOIS

*Sir*—The “American Annals of Education” contains a record of the system of public instruction & measures taken for improving them in this country & in Europe. On this account it has been deemed desirable by such of our public officers as are acquainted with the work, that a copy of it should be deposited in each of our State or Legislature libraries, and it is thus taken by the States of Massachusetts, New York, Maryland & Louisiana, to which alone, application has been made. You will perceive by the accompanying circular that a plan has been proposed for the disposing of all the sets now on hand. This cordial recommendation has produced so much influence that only twenty sets of the past volumes remain. I would, therefore, venture respectfully to ask whether it would not be expedient now, to secure a copy for consultation in regard to future measures relative to education for the Library of your State.

Yours respectfully,

WM. C. WOODBRIDGE

BOSTON, 1834

*Sir*—Allow me to present for your consideration a subject that has excited deep interest among many of our most distinguished fellow citizens. We have a multitude of Periodicals devoted to politics, religion & morals, the arts & sciences etc. and the friends of education believe it to be equally important that there should be *one* at least; to watch over our Schools & our

School Books—to disseminate improvements—to aid the instructor of youth—and to visit the domestic fireside, and assist the anxious parent in his important duties. Only one work of this kind now exists in the country, the “American Annals of Education” by Mr. Wm. C. Woodbridge and it would be difficult to name a work of any kind whose commendations from all parties, both in politics and in religion, and from every quarter of the Union, have been so unqualified & so numerous. Among the Gentlemen whose testimonials have been lately received, I may mention the *Hon. A. H. Everett*, who noticed the work in a number of the *North American Review*, in terms of warm approbation and appealed with earnestness to all interested in education for its support. *The Revd. Dr. Fay* who has taken a deep interest in the work & often exerted his influence in its behalf, in conversation, and by his pen. *The Revd. Dr. Channing* who in an extended review of “Woodbridge’s Annals of Education,” in the Novr. number of the *Christian Examiner*, has spoken very highly of its merits, and kindly of its Editor, and urged its claim upon the public, with many arguments. *The Hon. T. Frelinghuysen*, *The Revd. Professors, Porter, Woods, Stuart, Skinner & Emerson*. *The Hon. S. Van Renselaer*, *The Revd. R. Anderson*, who considers the work of great service & value to foreign Missionaries, and wishes the American Board had the disposal of 50 copies, in addition to donations of it to the same object made by Mr. W, amounting to 2 or 300 Dollars. *Messrs. B. D. Emerson, E. Bailey, G. B. Emerson & others*, Teachers in Boston. *The Revd. S. R. Hall*, *The Revd. Drs Jenks & Sharp*. *The Revd. Messrs Stone & Parkman*, *The Revd. Messrs Linsley, Malcom, Blayden, Winslow & others*. Pastors in Boston, who express their *entire confidence* in the work, as “precisely what this great & growing country demands, and such as every citizen, and especially *every parent* is deeply interested to sustain.” *Messrs T. H. Gallaudet, B. B. Edwards, & F. A. Packard, Presidents Peers of Lexington, Linsley of Nashville, The officers of the Institutions at Newton, Cambridge, Princeton, etc. and many others*. To subserve the interests of education it appears that the Editor & Proprietor has circulated, without payment, about 500 vol. and 6,000 Nos. of the “Annals” (the sale of which would have amounted to

about \$3,000) besides devoting his time to the same cause for three years without any remuneration. Under his care the subscription has nearly doubled, and it is thought the work may now be placed on a permanent basis, if the expenses necessarily incurred can be paid by the sale of 200 sets of the volumes now on hand. This must be done before the work can proceed beyond the present year. I have only to add that I have been urged by several of the friends of education to make efforts for the accomplishment of this object. I am willing to do what I can, and indulge the hope that you will co-operate with many others who have already lent their aid in giving success to the undertaking.

Most respectfully, Yours

SAMUEL BEEMAN

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We regret to learn that the “Annals of Education” has not a sufficient number of subscribers to sustain it. We are informed that the interest now excited on its behalf, and the efforts to which it has led, will probably extend its circulation and ensure its existence, provided one obstacle can be removed. A balance is still due for past expenses of the work which must be paid by the sale of 200 sets, before the Editor can proceed in his labours. The sum necessary for their purchase will not exceed half the

amount the Editor has already sacrificed; and we trust it will be cheerfully contributed by the friends of education in order to preserve the only American Periodical on this subject.

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# PORTRAITS OF THE GOVERNORS OF ILLINOIS ---

SHADRACH BOND—1818-1822.....*Frontispiece*

From oil painting in Illinois State Historical  
Library, Springfield, Illinois

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From oil painting by George F. Wright. In  
office of the Governor at Springfield, Illinois

NINIAN EDWARDS—1826-1830.....p. 116

From oil painting by George F. Wright. In  
office of the Governor at Springfield, Illinois

JOHN REYNOLDS—1830-1834.....p. 161

From oil painting by George F. Wright. In  
office of the Governor at Springfield, Illinois





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